

MASAMUNE 伊達政宗 DATE

横山光輝

Sakaguchi Masaharu, Matsuyama

山岡莊八=原作

Yamagita Shōpachi, Yamada





伊達政宗

山光

三因莊八十原作

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DATE

全四卷

MITSUTERU
YOKOYAMA

横山光輝
山岡莊八 原作

BASED ON
A WORK BY
SOUHACHI
YAMAOKA



VOLUME 1



MASAMUME

DATE
MASAMUNE
VOLUME 1
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西田文庫
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BOOK I:
THE DAWN

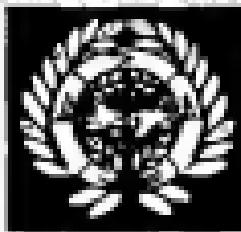
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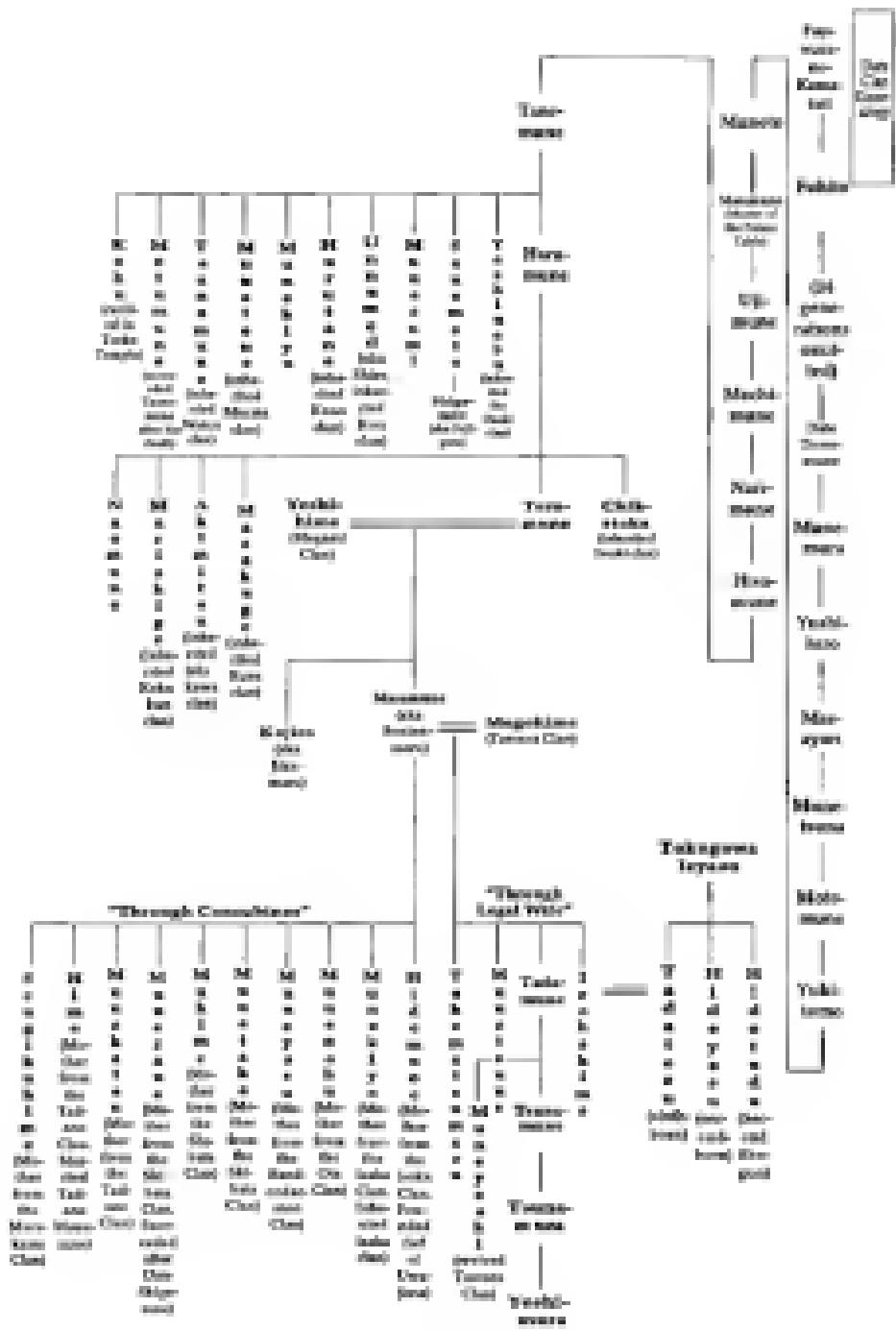
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DATE FAMILY CREST



伊達家家紋



THE CHAOS
CONTINUED FOR OVER
A HUNDRED YEARS. IT WAS
AN AGE WHERE LINEAGE AND
STATUS MEANT NOTHING,
AND EVEN AMONG FAMILY,
THE WEAK WAS DESTROYED
AND THE STRONG
SURVIVED.

He said it's
not a good
idea

to do it

THE DATE CLAN OF OSHU HAD A GREAT CLAN DESCENDED FROM THE FUJIWARA, BUT CAUGHT IN THE WAVES OF CHAOS, THEY TOO HAD TO FIGHT DAY AND NIGHT FOR SURVIVAL. IT WAS THE FOURTEENTH LORD OF THE CLAN, TANAKAWA, THAT EXPANDED THEIR INFLUENCE.



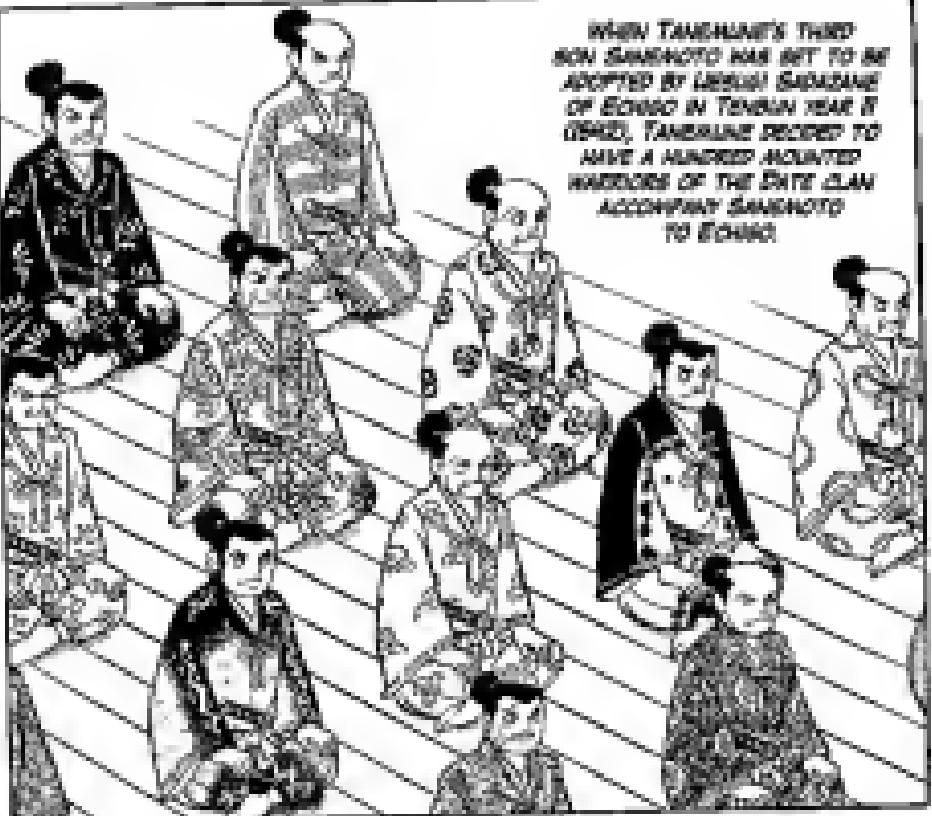
IN EISHO YEAR OF 1540,
TANAKIWA BATTLED
THE ANDO CLAN OF
YAMAGATA, AND OCCUPIED
THE CASTLES OF KANAYA
AND HASSHO. AFTER
THAT, HE BLOWS BUT
SILENTLY SURROUNDED AND
SUPPRESSED THE ANDO
CLAN.



TANISHUME HAD OVER TEN WIVES AND MISTRESSES, AND BETWEEN THEM, THEY RAISERLY GAVE BIRTH TO CHILDREN. HE HAD FOURTEEN SONS AND SEVEN DAUGHTERS.



HE HAD THOSE CHILDREN MARRIED TO THE ODAKI, KASAI, KAKOZO, SOURA, ASHINA, TANAKA, AND KAREN CLANS, AND FURTHERMORE HAD FOUR OF HIS SONS INHERIT CLANS UNDER HIS COMMAND. HE STRONGLY ENACTED THE COMMON PRACTICE OF "VICTORY" THROUGH MARRIAGE ALLIANCES.



WHEN TANAKANE'S THIRD SON SANBONDO WAS SET TO BE ADOPTED BY UESHIJI SAGASANE OF ECHIGO IN TENSHIN YEAR (1640), TANAKANE DECIDED TO HAVE A HUNDRED AND ONE GUARDIANS OF THE DATE CLAN ACCOMPANY SANBONDO TO ECHIGO.





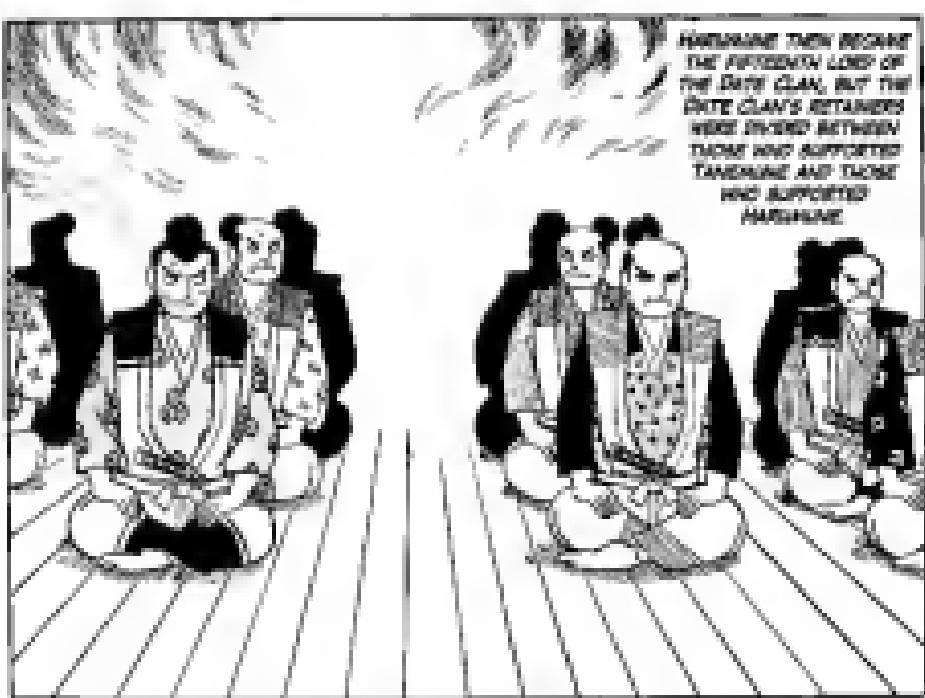
HARUHIME DECIDED TO TAKE EXTREME MEASURES. HE ANASHUNE TAKISHIMA WHEN HE WOULD REFUSING FIGHT BACK.



HE CONFINED TAKISHIMA AND FORCED HIM TO RETIRE TO MARUMO CASTLE.

1/17/00

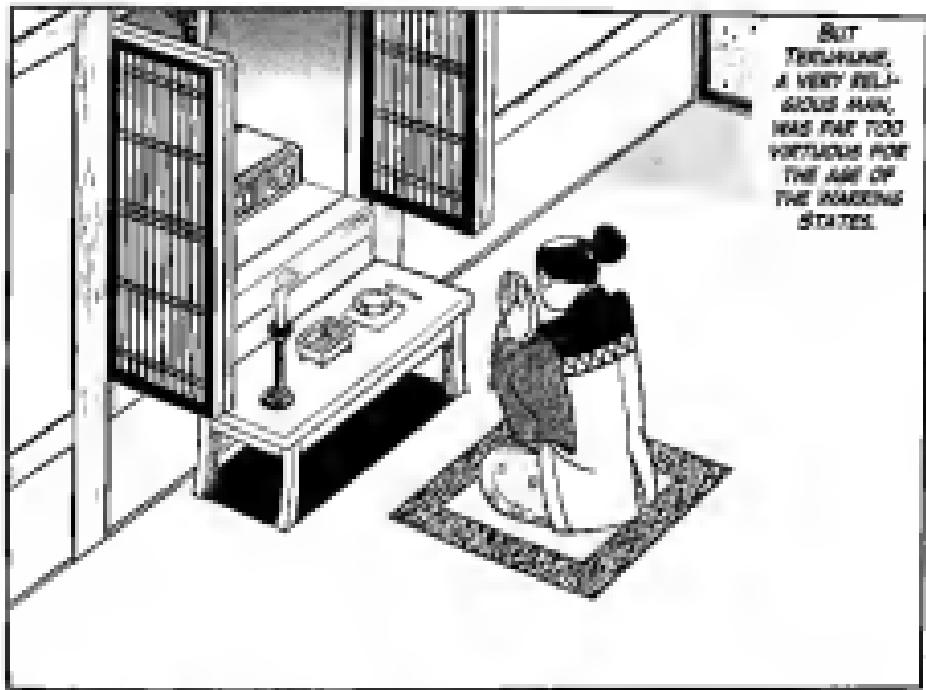
HARUHIDE THEN BECAME THE FIFTEENTH LORD OF THE DATE CLAN, BUT THE DATE CLAN'S RETAINERS WERE DIVIDED BETWEEN THOSE WHO SUPPORTED TAKEMOTO AND THOSE WHO SUPPORTED HARUHIDE.



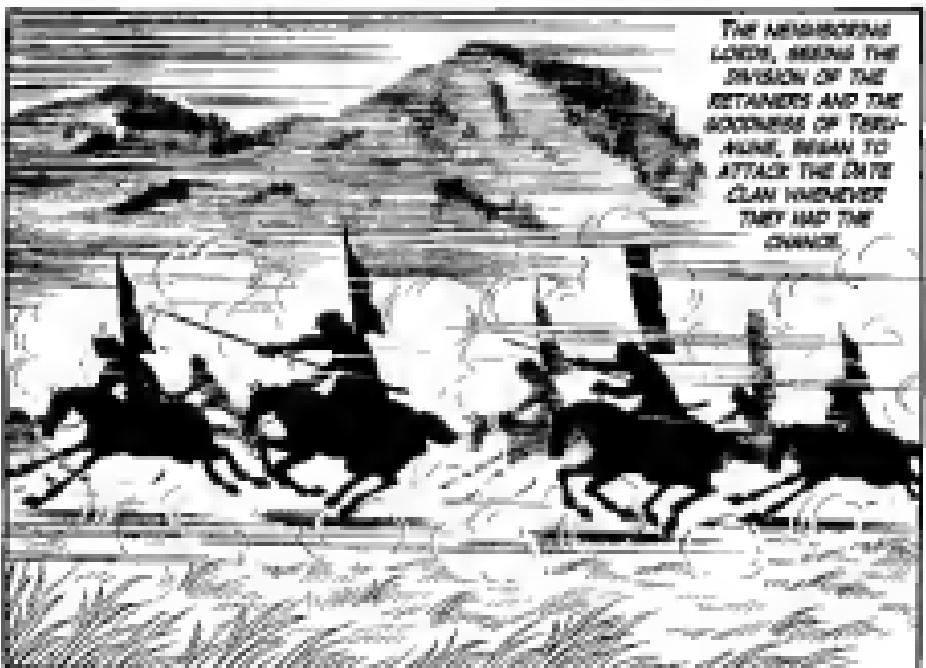
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THIS DIVISION AMONG THE RETAINERS GREATLY HURT THE DATE CLAN. BEFORE LONG, HARUHIDE HIMSELF RETIRED TO KOBANOME CASTLE, AND HIS SON TERUMOTO (MARUHIDE'S FATHER) ASSUMED THE DATE CLAN.



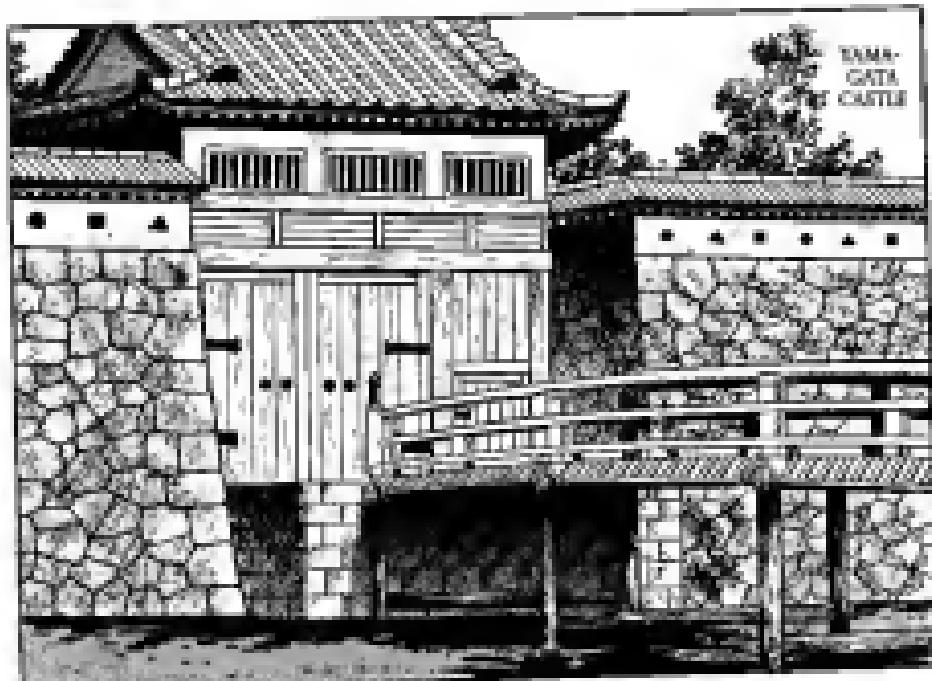


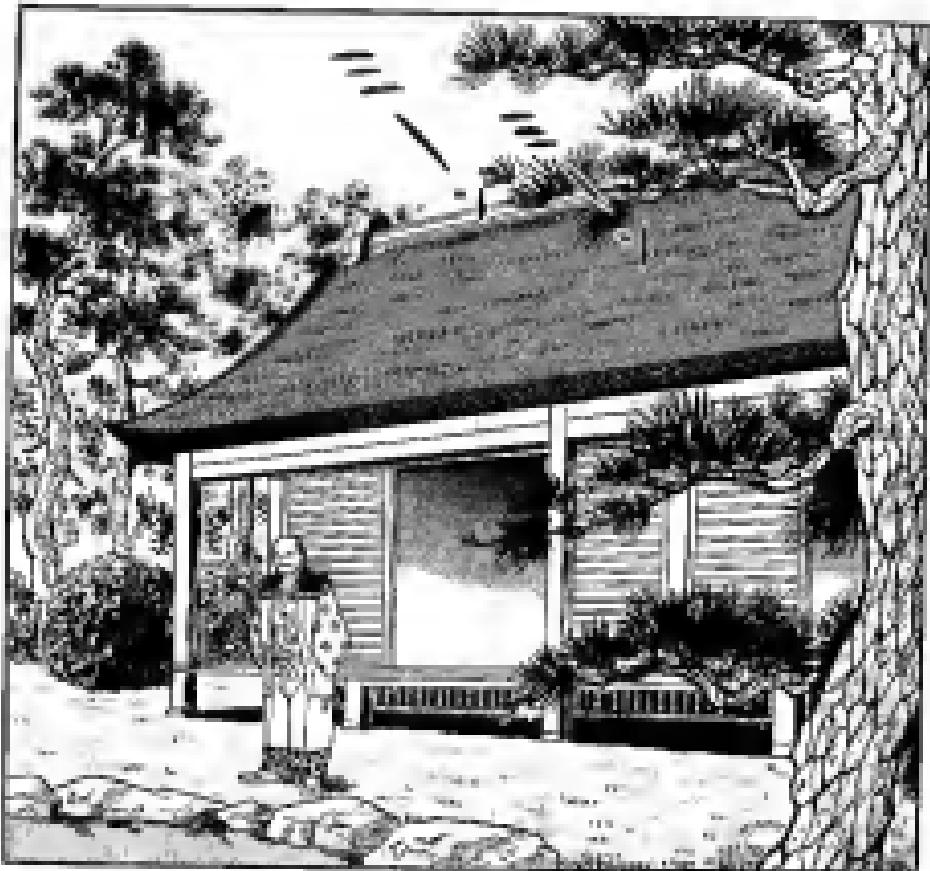
BUT
TERAMINE,
A VERY RELI-
ABLE MAN,
HAD FAR TOO
PORTUGUESE FOR
THE AGE OF
THE RAILING
STATES.



THE NEIGHBORING
LORDS, SEEING THE
DIVISION OF THE
RETAINERS AND THE
SOCKNESS OF TERU-
MINA, Began TO
ATTACK THE DATE
CLAN whenever
they had the
chance.

CHAPTER 1: A STRANGE ENGAGEMENT





THE CHIEF
RETAINER OF
THE DATE
CLAN?

A MAN WHO CALLS
HIMSELF NAKANO
MINSTONES, CHIEF
RETAINER OF THE
DATE CLAN, WISHES
TO SPEAK WITH
YOU, MY LORD.



HMM... I
WONDER
WHAT HE
WANTS

YES,
MY
LORD

IS HE
ALONE?

YES,
MY
LORD.

VERY WELL.
SEND HIM
TO THE GUEST
ROOM. BUT
BE ON YOUR
GUARD.



WHAT COULD
THE CHIEF
RETAINER
OF THE
DATE CLAN
WANT?





WHAT'S
LORD
TANEMUNE?

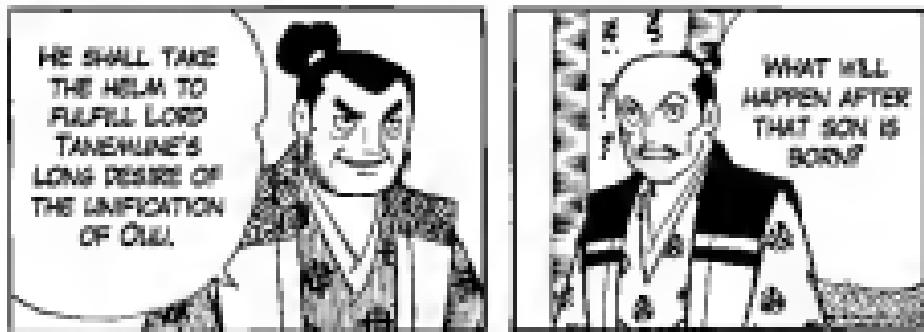
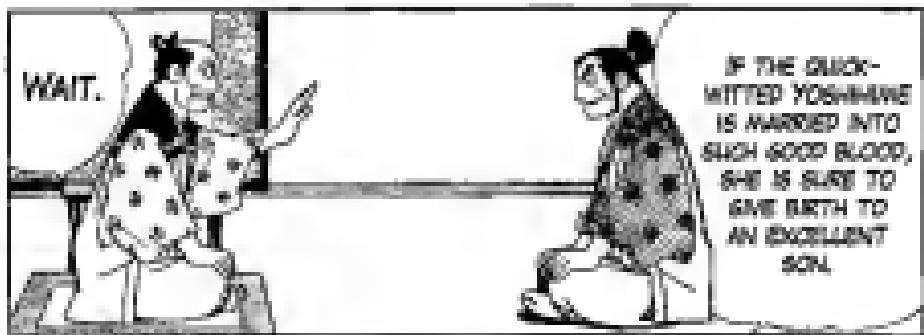
THE RETIRED LORD
OF THE DATE CLAN,
LORD TANEMUNE,
HAS REQUESTED
YOSHIMINE AS A
BRIDE FOR LORD
TERUMUNE.

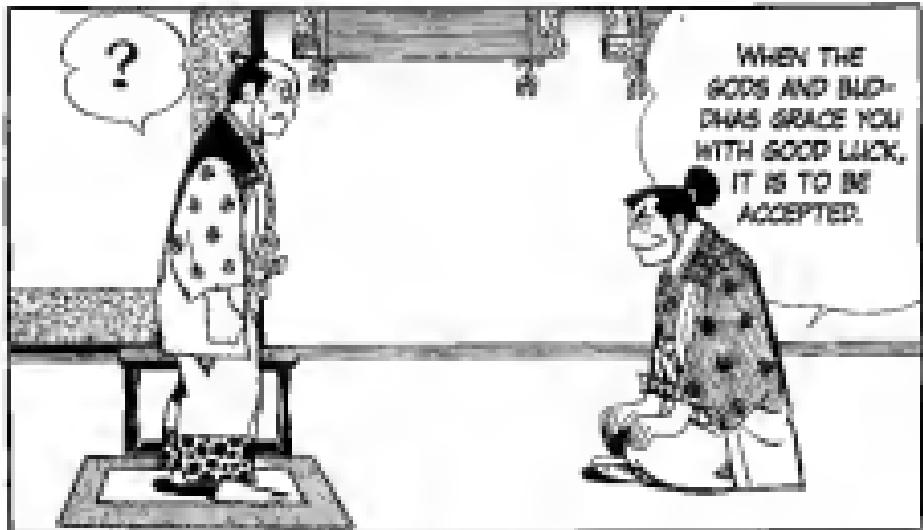
SO HE HAS
CHOSEN MY
DAUGHTER.

SPEAKING FRANKLY, THE DATE
CLAN'S RETAINERS ARE DIVIDED,
AND WE ARE UNSTABLE WITHIN.
LORD TANEMUNE IS ANXIOUS OF
THE DATE CLAN'S FUTURE, AND
HE WISHES FOR AN EXCELLENT
WIFE TO PROVIDE HIM WITH
A WONDERFUL HEIR...

AND THE DATE CLAN
IS ONE OF THE GREAT
CLANS OF OSHU. THEY
HAVE BROUGHT FORTH
COUNTLESS EXCELLENT
PEOPLE. THEY ARE
A CLAN OF GOOD
HERITAGE.

LADY
YOSHIMINE
IS A QUICK-
HITTEN COUR-
SEOUS WOMAN
WHO HAS EVEN
TAKEN LIVES
IN WAR.







AND HIS CHILD
HARUMUNE, AND HIS
CHILD TERUMUNE, DO
NOT HAVE THE POTENTIAL
TO CARRY THIS ON IN
THIS CHAOTIC WORLD.
THEY WILL EVENTUALLY
BE DESTROYED.



AND SO I THOUGHT
ABOUT ABANDONING
THE DATE CLAN AND
GOING TO ODAWARA
OR SUNPU, WHEN I WAS
ORDERED TO FULFILL
THIS ROLE.



WHAT? EVEN
IF HE TAKES
THE NAME
MOSHAJI?

IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF
HE TAKES THE
NAME DATE OR
MOSHAJI.

IF THIS
ENGAGEMENT
COMES INTO PLACE
AND AN EXCELLENT
CHILD IS BORN,
I WISH TO RAISE
THAT CHILD TO BE
A HERO THAT CAN
UNITE OUL.



INDEED, IF I COULD
RAISE A HERO THAT
COULD UNITE OUL...
THAT WOULD BE MY
PURPOSE IN LIFE.

SO YOU'RE FINE
WITH ALIENING MY
DAUGHTER AND
BETRAYING THE
DATE CLAN..

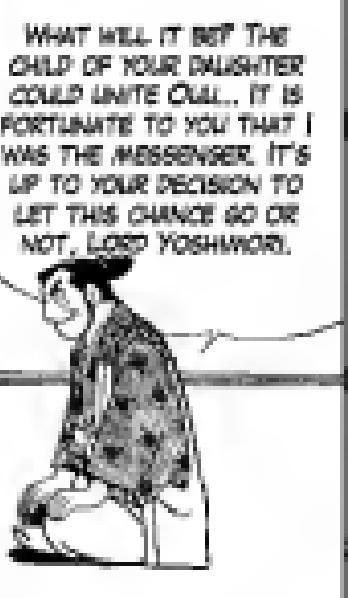
THE DATE CLAN IS
CURRENTLY UNSTABLE
AND HAS NO FUTURE.
IF I JOIN FORCES WITH
YOSHIMINE, I COULD
EASILY TAKE OVER
THE DATE CLAN.



AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, I HAVE LOST HOPE IN THE DATE CLAN. I MAY BE OFFICIALLY A RETAINER OF THE DATE CLAN, BUT I AM NO RETAINER.



HMM...



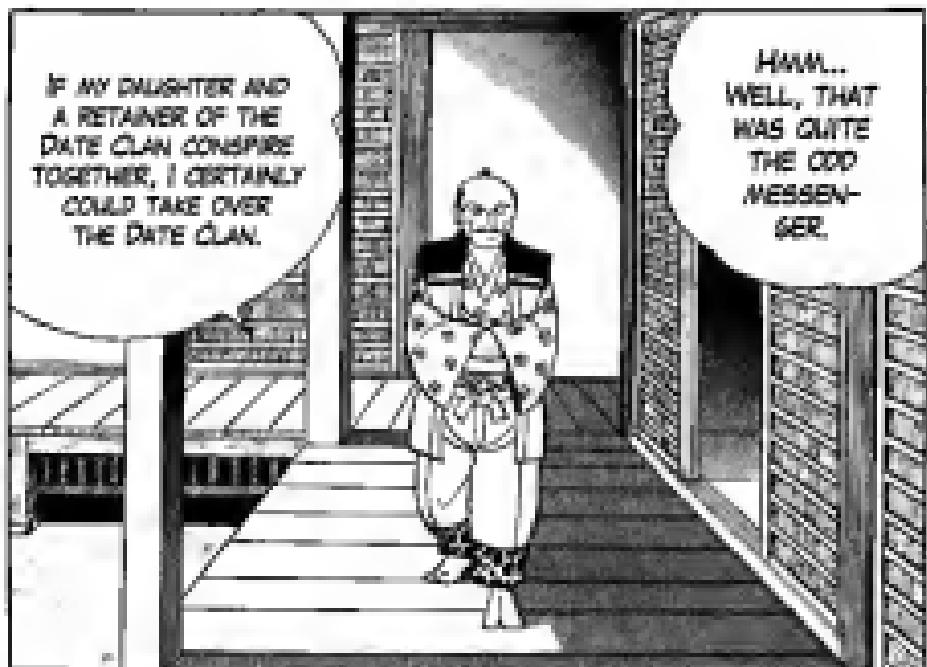
WHAT WILL IT BE? THE CHILD OF YOUR DAUGHTER COULD UNITE OULI. IT IS FORTUNATE TO YOU THAT I WAS THE MESSENGER. IT'S UP TO YOUR DECISION TO LET THIS CHANCE GO OR NOT, LORD YOSHIMOTO.

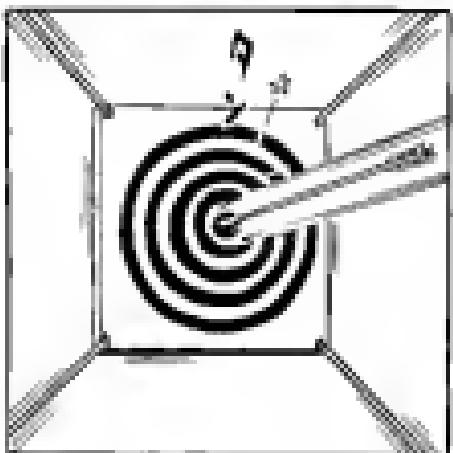


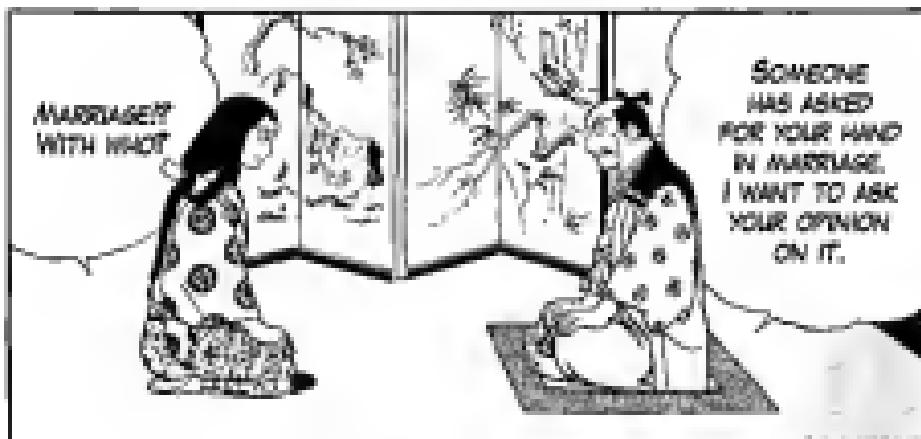
WHAT...



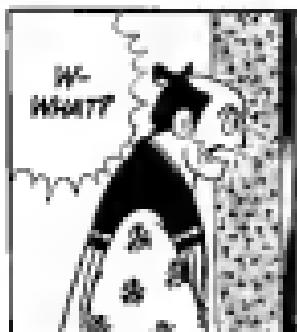
I MUST FIRST ASK HOW MY DAUGHTER FEELS ABOUT THIS ENGAGEMENT. I SHALL GIVE MY REPLY AT A LATER DATE...













SO
YOU'RE
SAYING
YOU WILL
MARRY
TERU-
MUNE?



THUS I
SHALL GO
TO YONE-
ZAWA.



WHATEVER
YOU'LL CUT
OFF YOUR
HUSBAND'S
HEAD WHILE
HE SLEEPS!



YES. ONCE I AM
MARRIED AND HAVE
GIVEN BIRTH TO
A CHILD, I SHALL
HAVE THAT CHILD
RETURN WITH
TERUMUNE'S
HEAD.



I DO NOT
CARE, AS
LONG AS
IT IS A
BOY.



BUT THIS
WILL MEAN
YOU MUST
BEAR TERU-
MUNE'S
CHILD!

SO I WILL TAKE THE HEIR AS MY HOSTAGE AND RETURN WITH MY HUSBAND'S HEAD.

I SEE. THAT WILL MEAN HE WILL BE THE HEIR OF THE DATE CLAN.

R-RIGHT

ALL THAT WILL REMAIN ARE THE ELDERLY FATHER AND HIS FATHER... SO LONG AS I HAVE THE HEIR HOSTAGE, OUR CLAN WILL BE SAFE.

WE MAKE IT SEEM LIKE WE ARE FALLING FOR THEIR TRAP, BUT WE TRAP THEM INSTEAD. WE ARE UP AGAINST NOTORIOUS WARRIORS. WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST THIS GREAT A STRATEGY TO STAND AGAINST THEM.

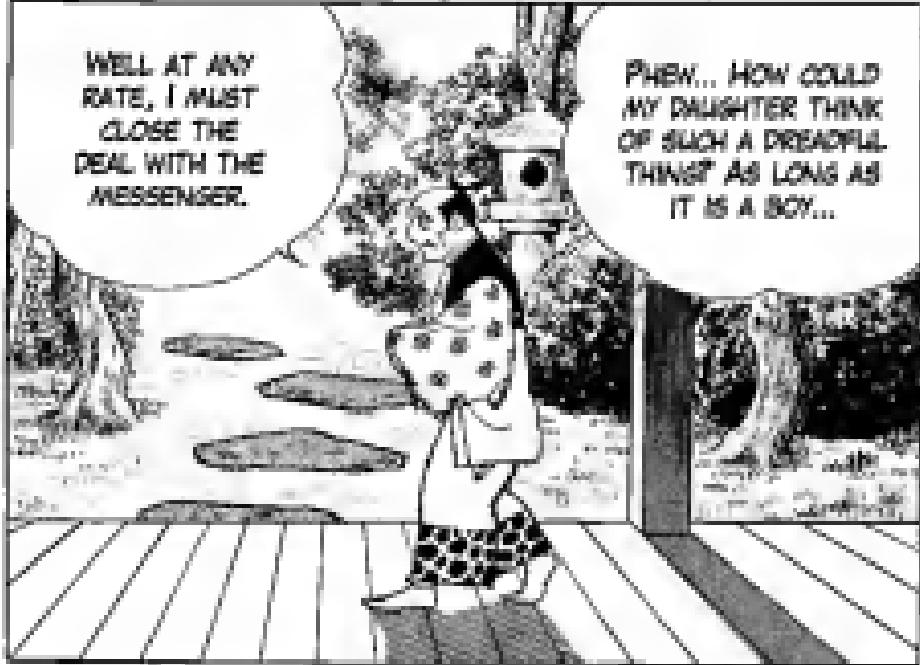
RIGHT.

NOW, PLEASE
HAVE THIS
ENGAGEMENT
ARRANGED
QUICKLY.



WELL AT ANY RATE, I MUST
CLOSE THE DEAL WITH THE
MESSENGER.

PHEW... HOW COULD
MY DAUGHTER THINK
OF SUCH A DREADFUL
THING! AS LONG AS
IT IS A BOY...



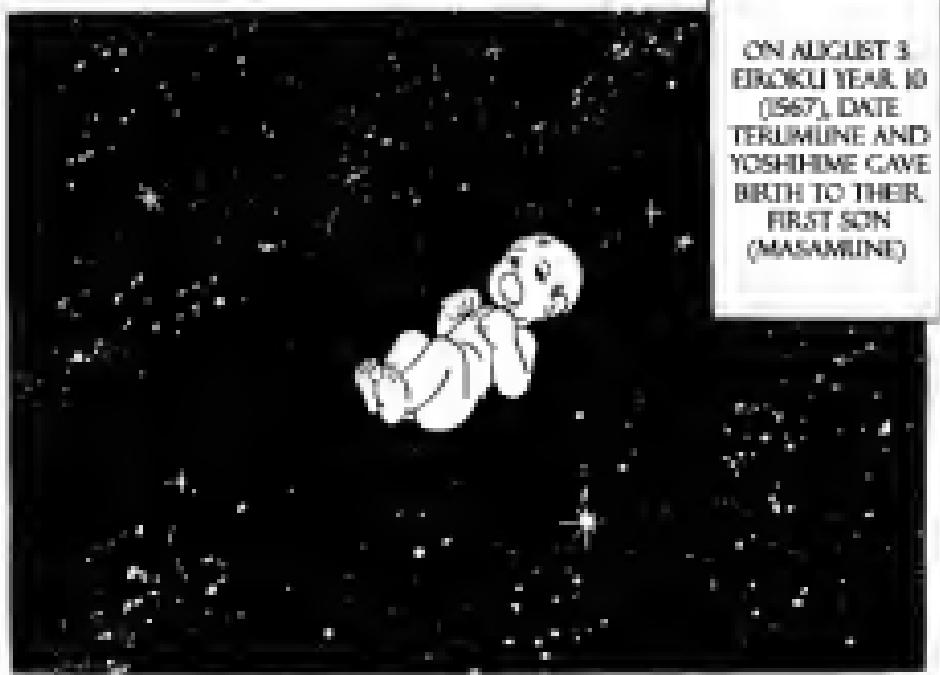


MASAMUNE DAI DAI MASAMUNE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 1 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 2: BIRTH



ON AUGUST 3,
EIRŌKU YEAR 10
(1967), DATE
TERUMIENE AND
TOSHIHIME GAVE
BIRTH TO THEIR
FIRST SON
(MASAMUNE)

TAKAHASHI WAS ACT OVER-
JOINED AT HIS BIRTH. THE
TRADITION AT THE TIME WAS
THAT A MAN COULD NEVER
ENTER THE DELIVERY ROOM
BECAUSE IT WAS DIRTY,
BUT TAKAHASHI KNEW THAT
HE WANTED TO SEE HIS OWN
SON WITHIN THE DAY.



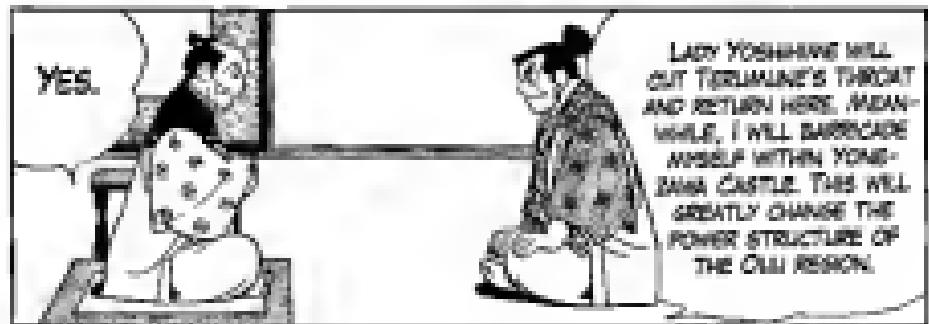
SHANNON SAGAWA'S
WIFE MARINA HAS
CHOSEN AS HIS NEW
MUSE. SHE WOULD
BECOME THE BASIS
FOR MARINA,
THE HEROINE OF THE
KABUKI PRODUCTION
"SENDAIYAKI".

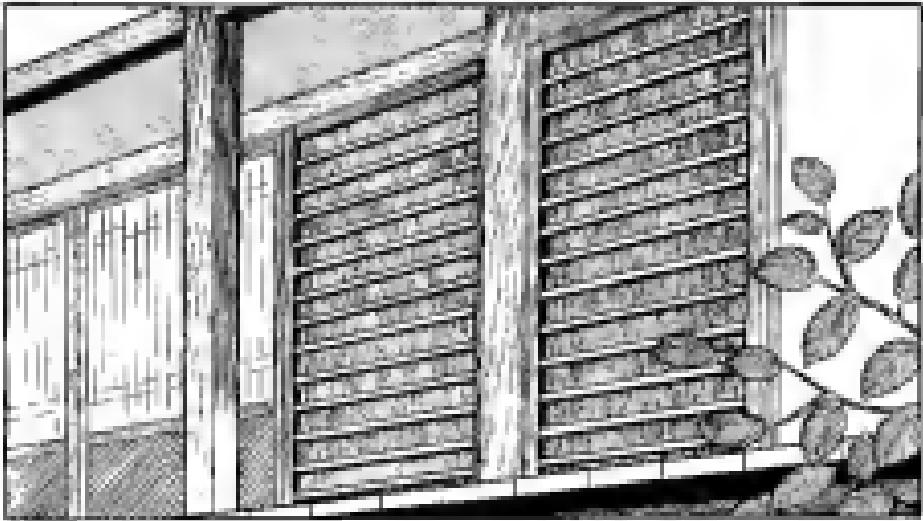


EIYOU YEAR 10 WAS THE YEAR THAT
THE SOLDIER OF FORTUNE ODA NORIYOSHI
ATTACKED SANTO TATEKAWA AND DESTROYED
INOSHIMA CASTLE OF AONO, THEN USED
IT AS A BASE TO WATCH OVER THE NATION.
AT THIS TIME, NORIYOSHI WAS 34 YEARS
OLD. HIDEYOSHI WAS 32, AND IYASU WAS
28. MASANORI LATER SPOKE THAT HAD
HE ONLY BEEN BORN TWENTY YEARS EAR-
LIER, HE WOULD CERTAINLY NOT STAND
DOWNWARD OF THEM.











NO, HE IS DOING VERY WELL.



IS HE IN ANY PAIN, MASAKO?



A TEMPLE...? FOR HIM?



I WAS JUST TALKING TO THE CHIEF PRIEST OF TOSHÓ TEMPLE, AND I WAS THINKING OF CONSTRUCTING A TEMPLE FOR BONTENMARU.



WHAT?



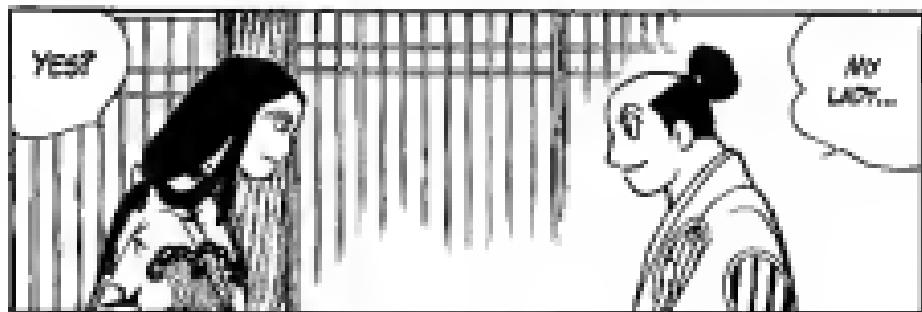
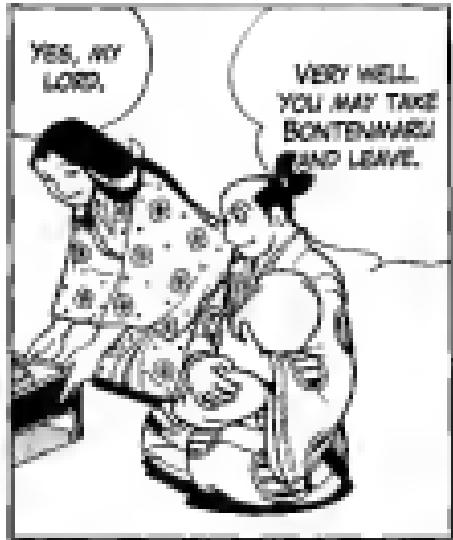
I WANT TO SPARE NO EXPENSE IN BUILDING A GREAT TEMPLE, AND INVITE HIGH PRIEST KOSAI TO BE IN CHARGE OF IT.

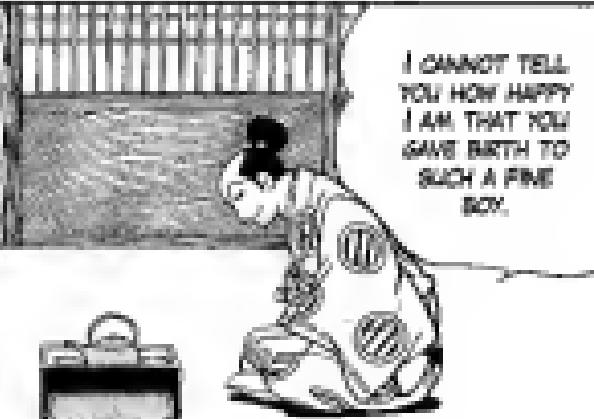
WHAT A
GOOD-
NATURED
MAN...

I'LL ALSO INVITE THE
CONFUCIAN SCHOLAR
AIDA KOMI. THAT
TEMPLE CAN BE
BONTEINMARU'S
SCHOOL...

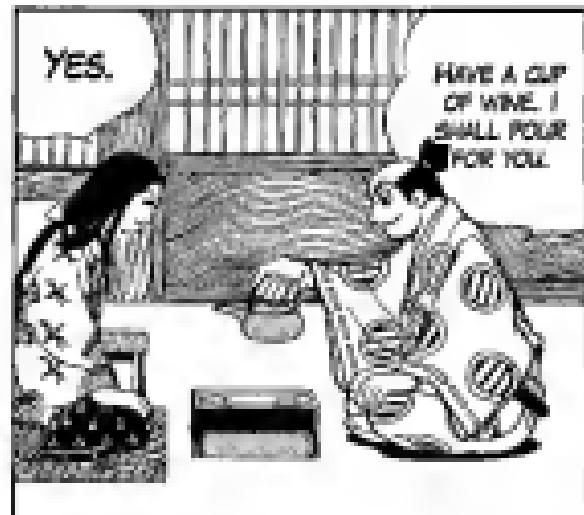
HIGH PRIEST KOSAI
IS FROM GOU OF
MINO, AND HE'S A
PRODIGY WHO STUDIED
UNDER HIGH PRIEST
KAISEN SHOKU. THE
CHIEF PRIEST OF
TOSHO TEMPLE
SPEAKS VERY
HIGHLY OF HIM.

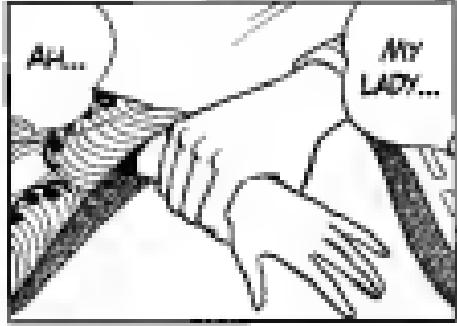






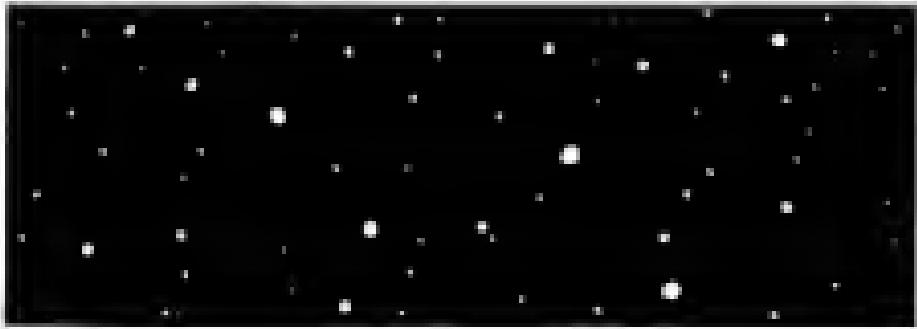
I CANNOT TELL
YOU HOW HAPPY
I AM THAT YOU
GAVE BIRTH TO
SUCH A FINE
BOY.



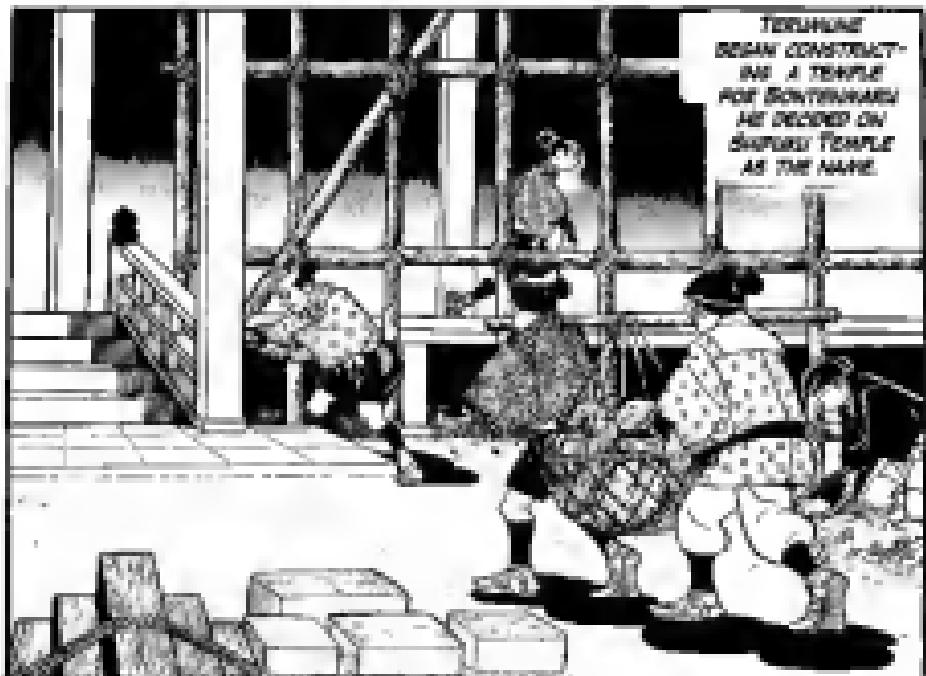


AND THIS
NATURALLY
LED TO THE
ACT BETWEEN
MAN AND
WIFE.











THEY ALSO
CHOOSE TWO BABIES.
THE FIRST WAS ODA
TOKUNORI SHIGEMASA,
MASAHARU'S COUSIN,
BUT HE HAD HARDLY
LIVED BORN.



THE
OTHER WAS
KATAKURA
KOURU
(KOBETSUJIN),
HALF-BROTHER
OF BOOTSAN-
MARU'S WEST
MURSE
MASAKO.



AMONGST
THE RIVALRY
OF THE WARRIOR-
KING'S SISTERS,
IT WAS RARE
TO SEE SOME-
ONE SO LOVED
BY THEIR
FATHER.



HE SPEAKS
INSTRUCTION
TO HIS GRAND
SON KAZUAKA
HARUTOKI

BONTEIWAJI
WAS TWO YEARS OLD
WHEN THE CONFUCIAN
SCHOLAR AIDA KOGAN
CAME FROM HOKKA
TO YONEZAWA.

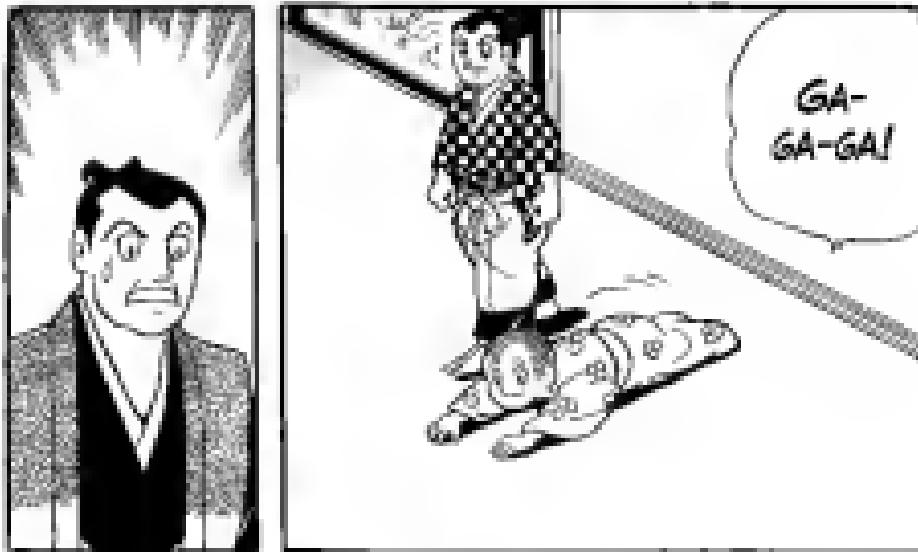


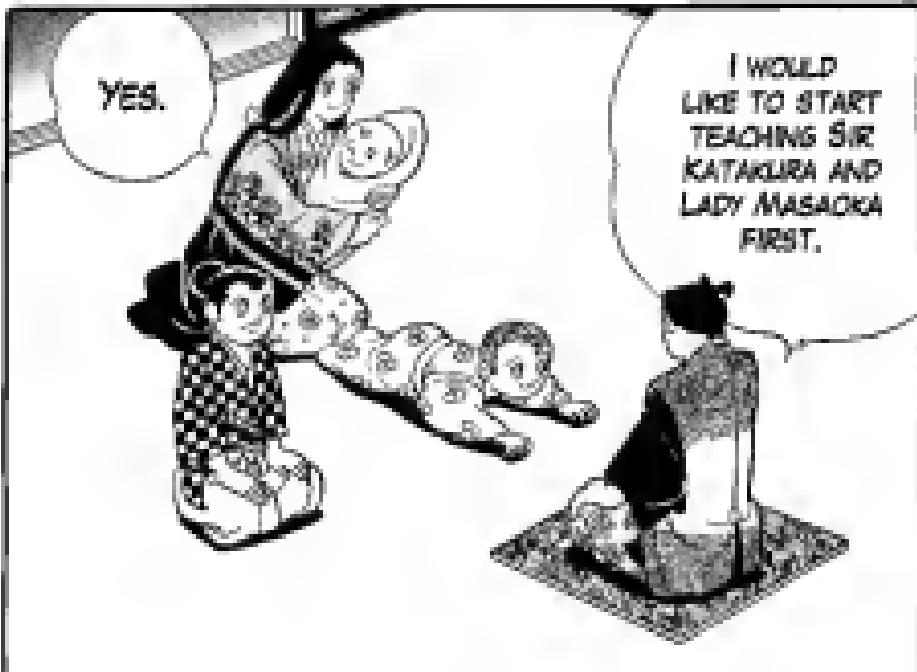
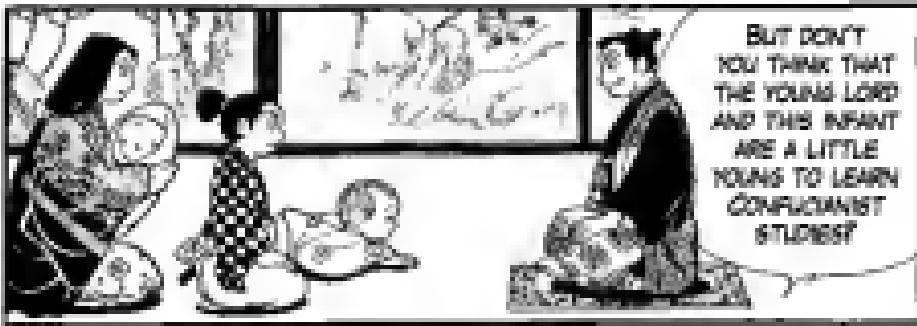
GOOD.
SEND
THEM
IN.

I APOLOGIZE
FOR MAKING
YOU WAIT. I HAVE
BROUGHT YOUR
STUDENTS.



NOW, NOW!
COME ON
IN! YOUR
MASTER'S
HERE!



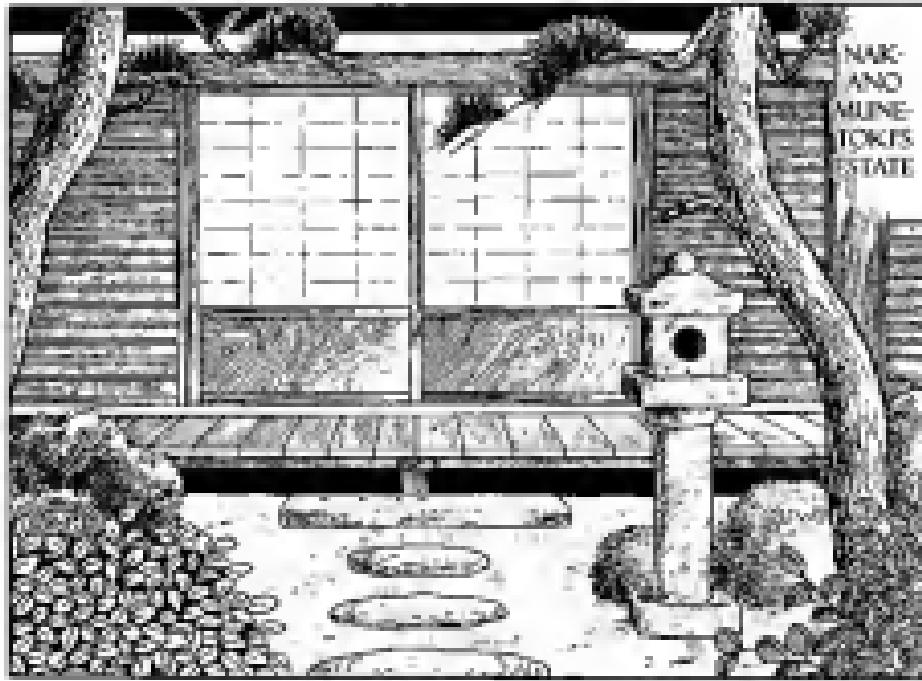


MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 2 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 3: THE REBELLION DISCOVERED











ALL
SAMURAI
DREAM
OF IT...



HAVE YOU
EVER WANTED
TO BE THE
LORD OF YOUR
OWN CASTLE
AND PROV-
INCE?



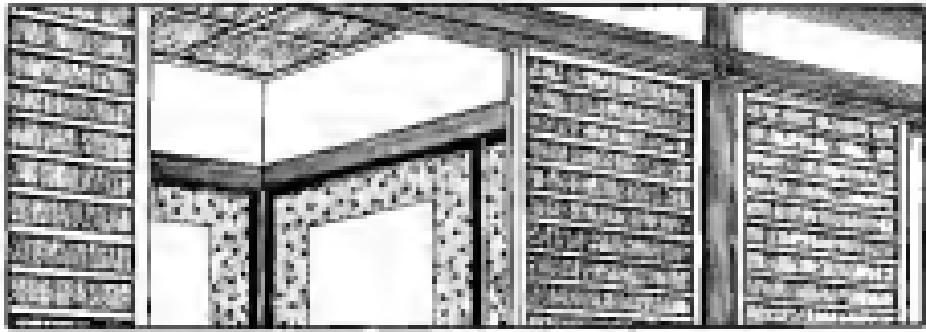
BUT IT IS NOT
SOMETHING YOU
CAN GAIN BY PRAY-
ING TO THE GODS
AND BUDDHAS. IT
IS SOMETHING YOU
MUST TAKE BY
FORCE!

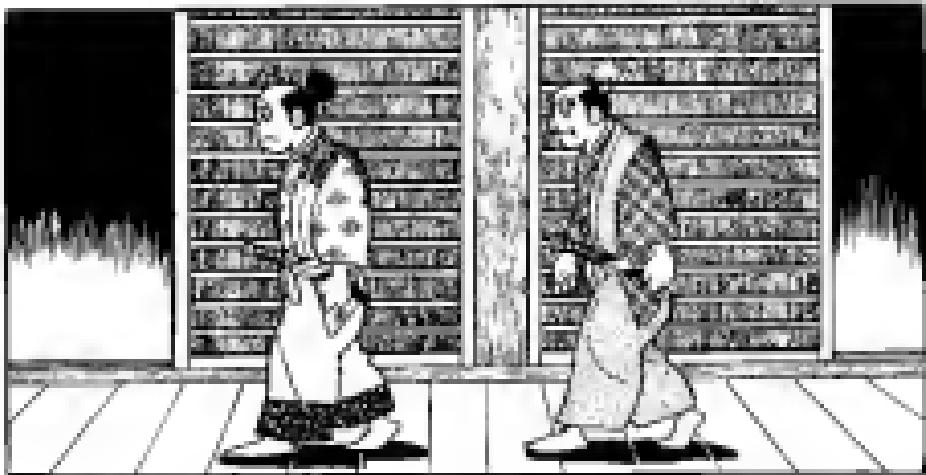


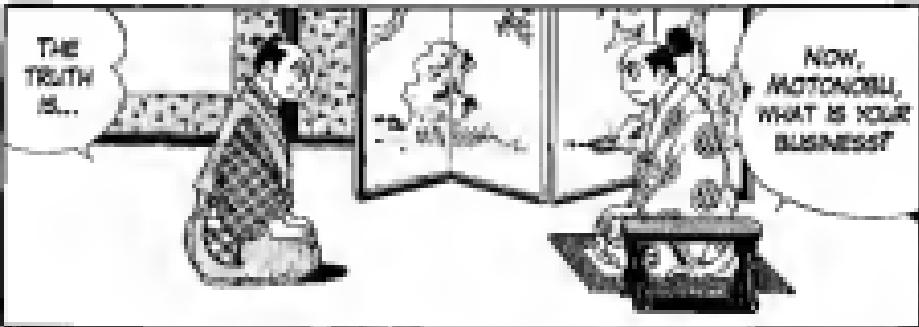
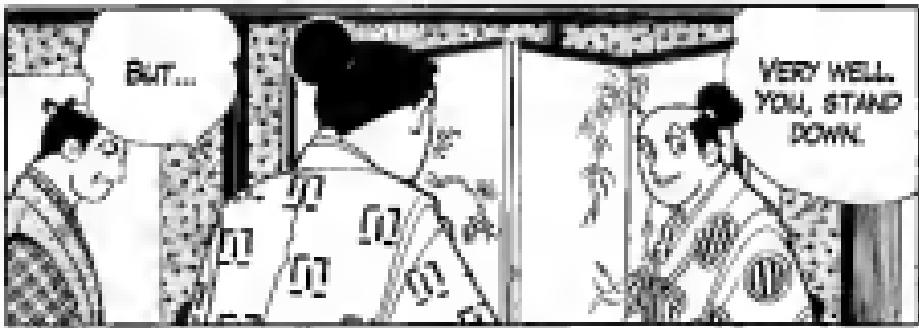
SAITO DOSEN WENT FROM
BEING AN OIL PEDDLER TO
BANISHING HIS LORD AND
BECOMING THE LORD OF
WINDO. ODA NOBUNAJI
EVEN KILLED HIS OWN
BROTHER TO GAIN THE
INFLUENCE HE HAS TODAY.

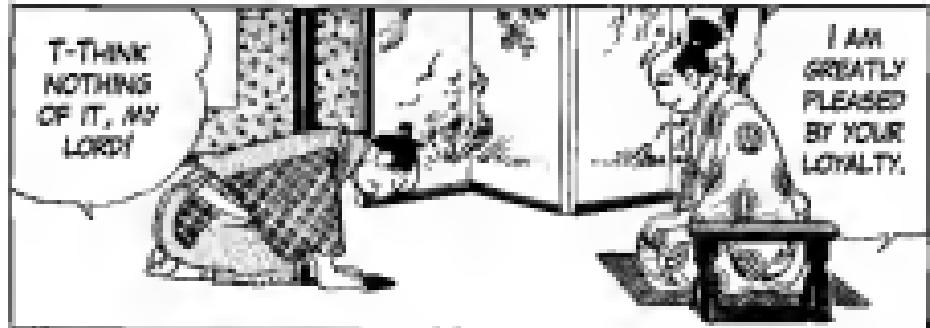




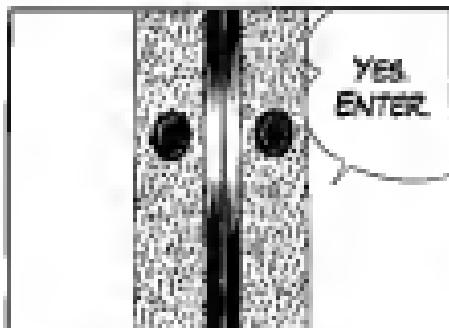














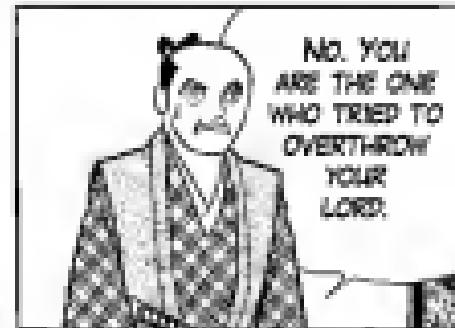
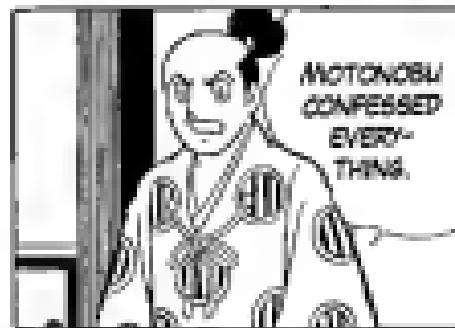
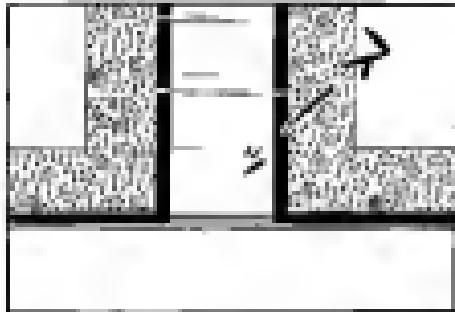
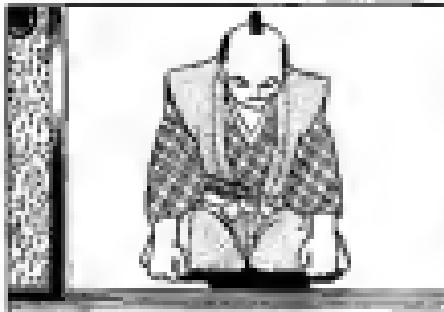
No,
THAT WAS
MERELY A
PRETEXT...

I HEARD YOU
WISHED TO
DISCUSS WITH
ME REGARD-
ING SHIRAKI
TEMPLE...

REBEL-
LION!!

MUNSTOKI,
I HEAR YOU
ARE PLOT-
TING A RE-
BELLION.





I HAVE ALREADY
HEARD RUMORS
OF YOU AND YOUR
SON TAKING SUS-
PICIOUS ACTIONS!
BUT THOSE WERE
ONLY RUMORS!

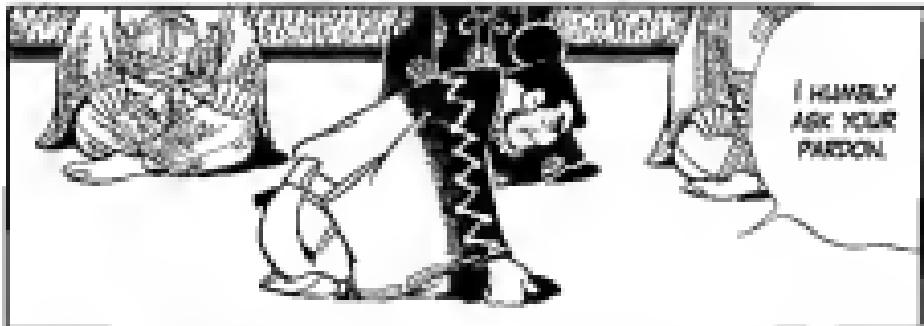
MUNETOKI,
THIS BEHAV-
IOR IS UNBE-
COMING OF
YOU!

BUT NOW
WE HAVE
A WITNESS!
YOU CANNOT
STRUGGLE
ANYMORE!



MUNETOKI, YOUR FAMILY
HAS SERVED OURS SINCE
MY GRANDFATHER'S TIME. IN
DEPENDENCE TO YOUR SERVICE,
I WILL SPARE YOUR LIFE. BUT
YOU WILL TAKE ALL THE ANA-
CONTENTS AND LEAVE MY
DOMAIN. THINK OF THIS
AS MY MERCY.





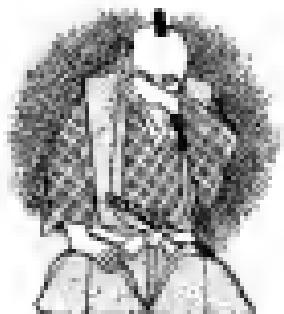
AND SO, NAKANO MINETOKI'S AMBITION CRUMPLED TO DUST, AND HE TOOK HIS ALLIES AND LEFT YONEZAWA.





BUT
MUNETOKI
PERISHED
AS HE WAS
RUNNING
TO SOKA.





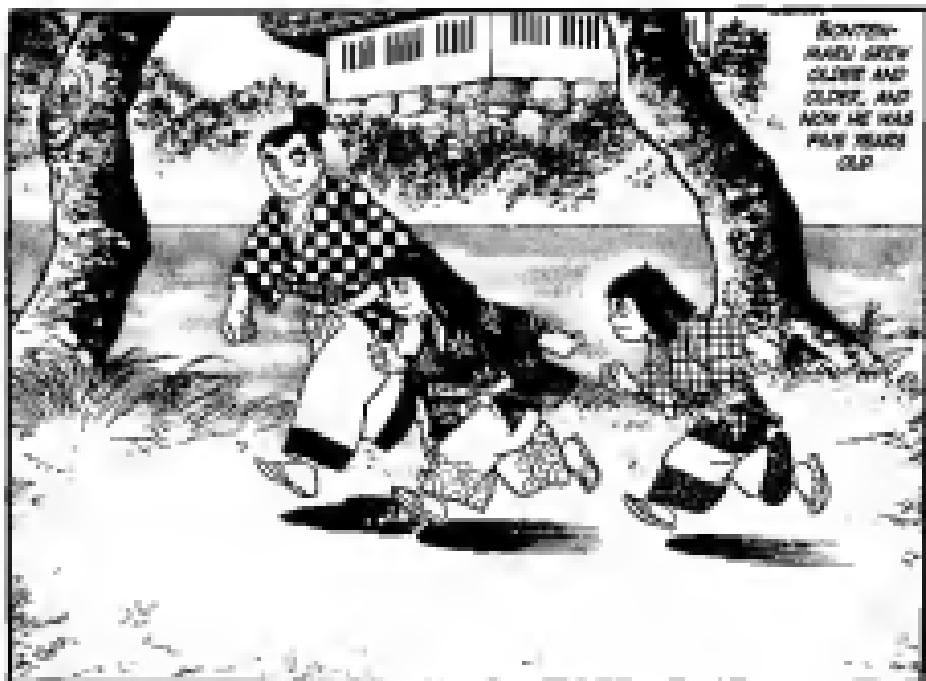
ENDO MOTONOBU
WAS SO GRATEFUL FOR
THIS TREATMENT THAT
WHEN TERUMUNE DIED,
HE FOLLOWED HIS
MASTER TO DEATH.

MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 3 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 4: THE ONE-EYED DRAGON

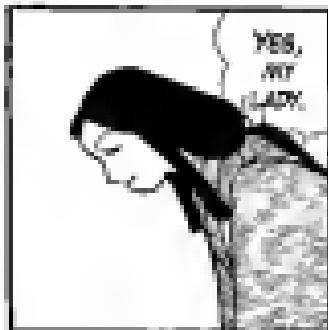
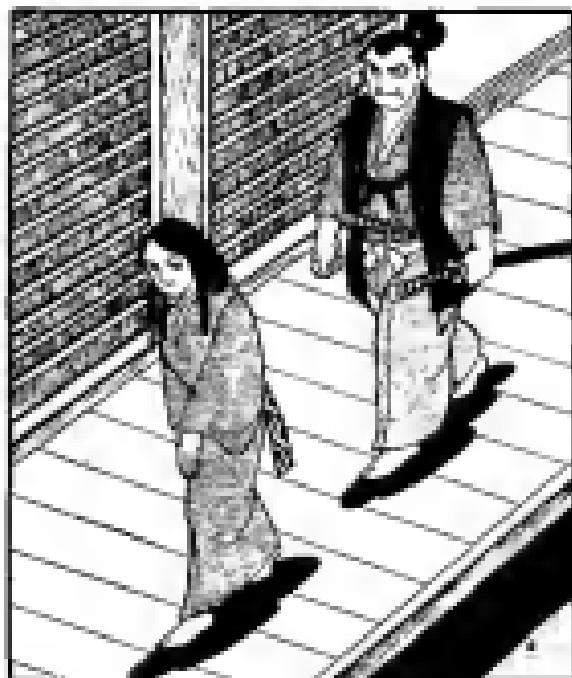




HIS MOTHER YOSHIMINE WAS IN A VERY COMPLEX AND TENSE STATE NOW THAT HISAGO (YAMATOJI'S TERRAIN) HAD BEEN DISCOVERED. SHE COULD NO LONGER SIT TEISHIJI'S THROAT AND TAKE BOOTSHEJI'S HORSE AS SHE HAD PLANNED.



ON TOP OF THAT, THINGS WERE GETTING INTERESTING, WITH THE HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF BOOTSHEJI BY TEISHIJI AND ALL THE RESTAURANT. YOSHIMINE GRADUALLY BEGAN TO SHOW FAVORITISM TO HIS BROTHER TEISHIJI.



IT MEANS
VERY MUCH
TO ME TO
SEE YOU
WELL.



I APPRECIATE
YOU COMING
HERE, MES-
SENGER.



YES, LORD
YOSHIMOTO
AND LORD
YOSHIMASA
ARE AT
WAR.



IS THERE
AN EMER-
GENCY?

IF THINGS
CONTINUE,
THE MUSASHI
CLAN WILL
BREAK INTO
TWO AND BE
AT WAR
WITH IT-
SELF.



WHAT
FATHER
AND BRO-
THER?



YES,
UNDER-
STOOD,
MY LADY.

I UNDERSTAND.
I SHALL GO
MEDIATE. TELL
MY FATHER
THAT I AM
COMING.

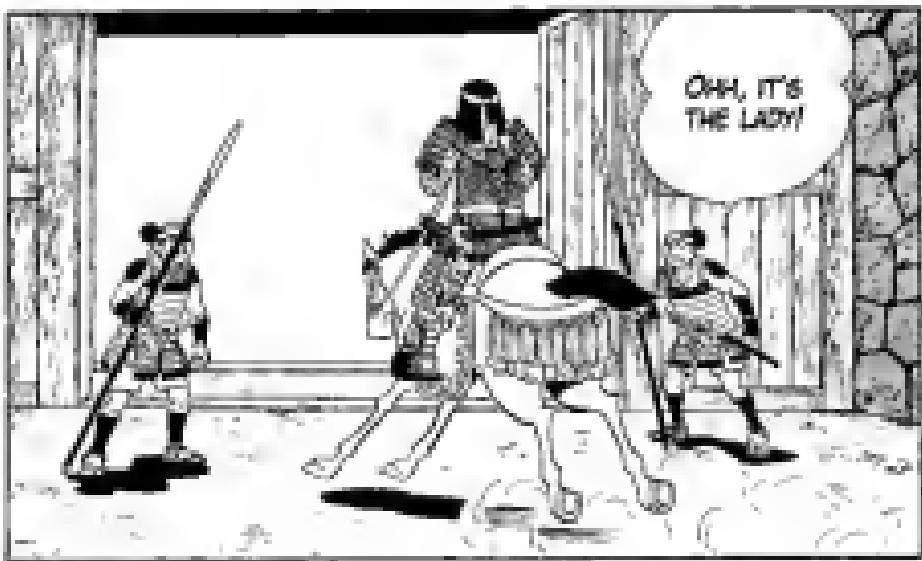
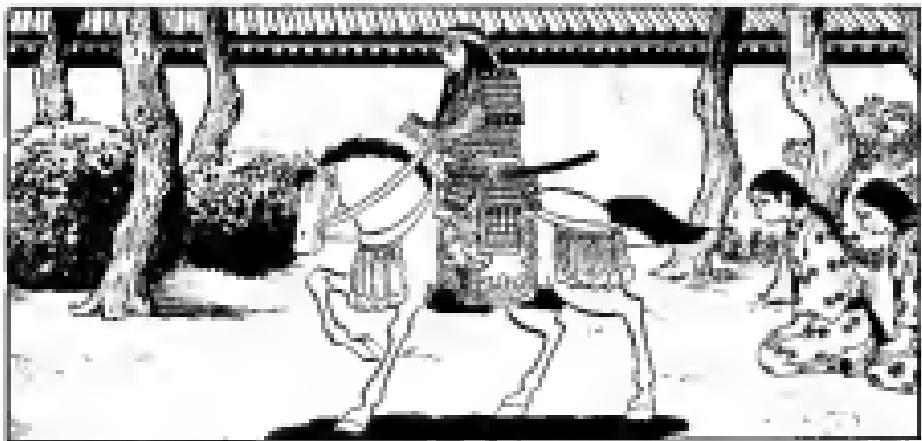
HOW
COULD THIS
BE? A WAR
BETWEEN
FATHER AND
SON?

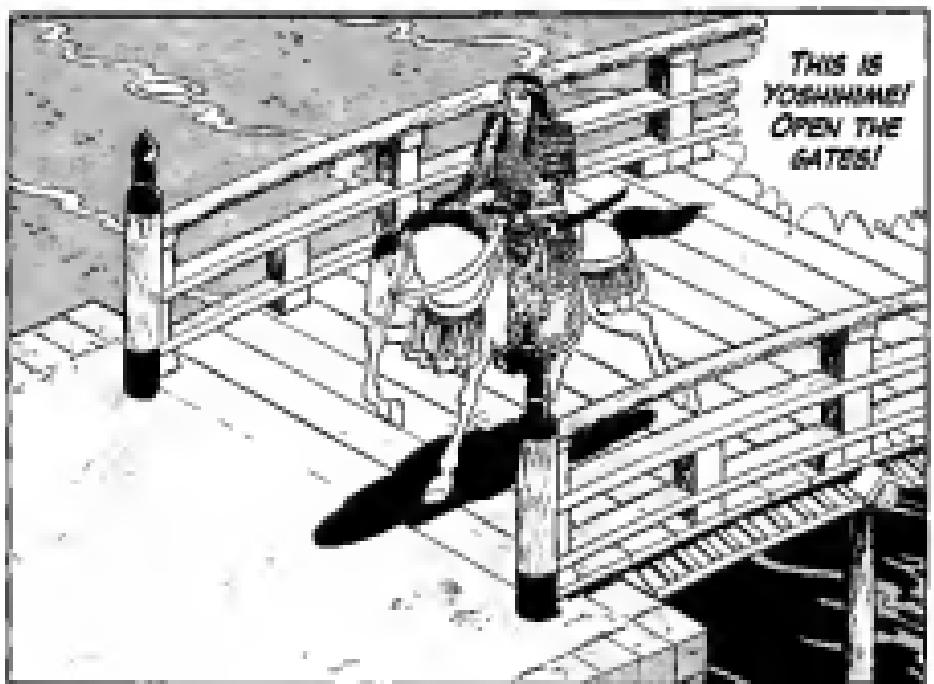
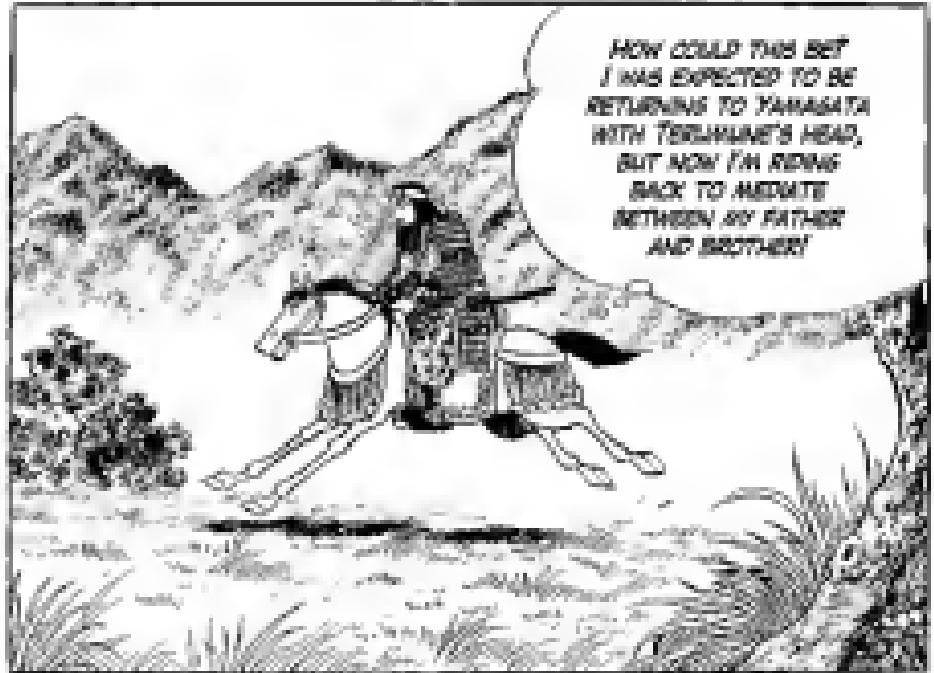
HOW COULD THIS
HAPPEN? I'VE GONE
AND GOTTEN MARRIED
TO THE DATE CLAN,
AND THE INSTANT
I REMEMBER HOME,
MY FATHER'S FIGHT-
ING HIS SON...

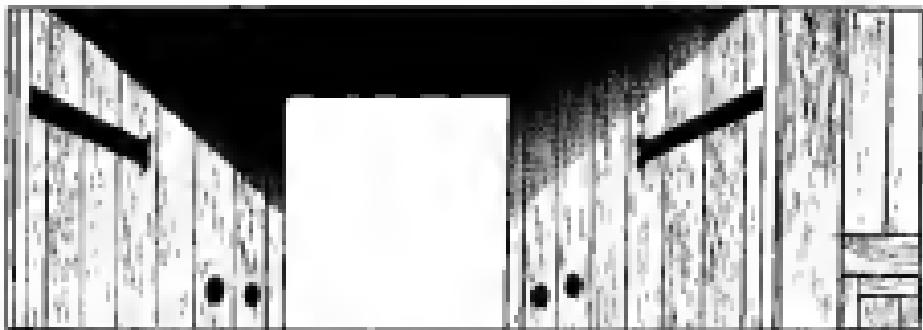














FATHER, BROTHER,
JUST WHAT DO
YOU THINK YOU WILL
GAIN BY FIGHTING
AMONGST YOUR-
SELVES?



WHOMEVER WINS,
THE MUSASHI CLAN
WILL BE SEVERELY
WEAKENED! THEN
DO YOU THINK
YOU CAN DEPEND
MOURSELVES FROM
FOREIGN INVA-
SIONIST?

THE PLAN TO SHIFT THE POWER BALANCE OF OMI WAS FOILED WHEN NAKANO MUNETOKI'S TREASON WAS DISCOVERED, BUT ALL THAT I DID, I DID FOR THE SAFETY OF THE MOSAMI CLAN!



FOR WHAT REASON DID I MARRY INTO THE DATE CLAN?

BUT NOTHIN'S! I AM AGAINST WEAKENING THE MOSAMI CLAN'S FORCES!



NOW THAT THE PLAN IS FOILED, THE MOSAMI CLAN SHOULD BE MORE UNITEO TO PROTECT OURSELVES FROM INVASION!



YES.
WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
YOSHAKI?

NOW THROW
AWAY YOUR
DISCONTENT
AND RECONCILE
YOURSELVES
BEFORE ANY

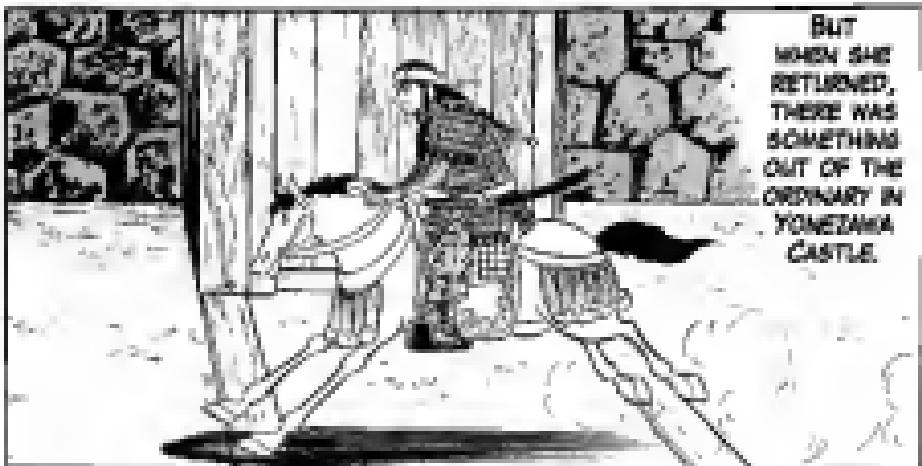
NOW
LET EVERY-
THING THAT
HAPPENED
BETWEEN
YOU GO.

YOU ARE
RIGHT,
SISTER.

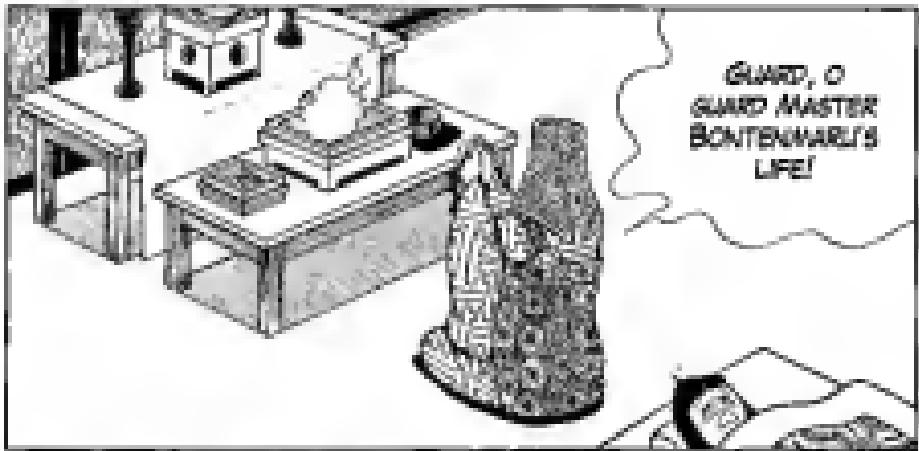
NOW THAT
I HAVE HEARD
THAT, I CAN
RETURN
ASSURED.

YES. FROM
NOW ON, WE
WILL COMPRO-
MISE AND BE
AT PEACE.

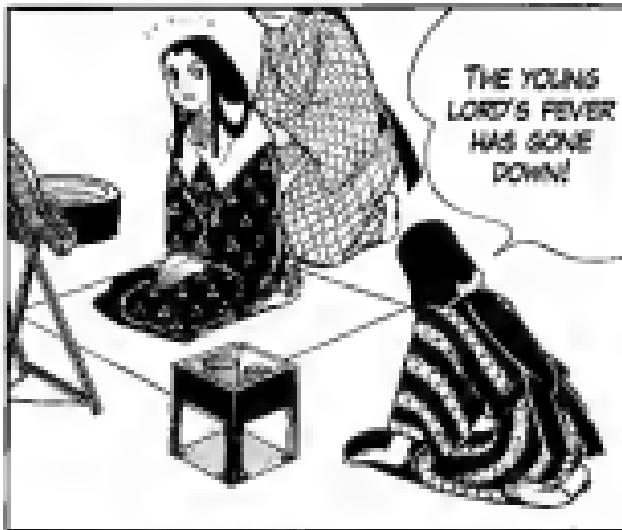
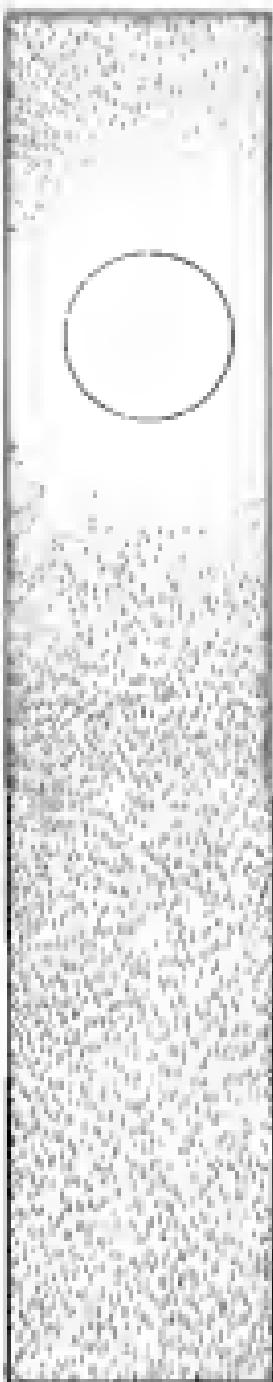
YOSHIMINE MADE HER FATHER
AND BROTHER RECONCILE AND
RETURNED TO YONEZAWA CASTLE.
IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, THIS
STORY SPREAD ACROSS OSAKI AND
BECAAME ONE OF THE HEROIC
TALES OF YOSHIMINE.

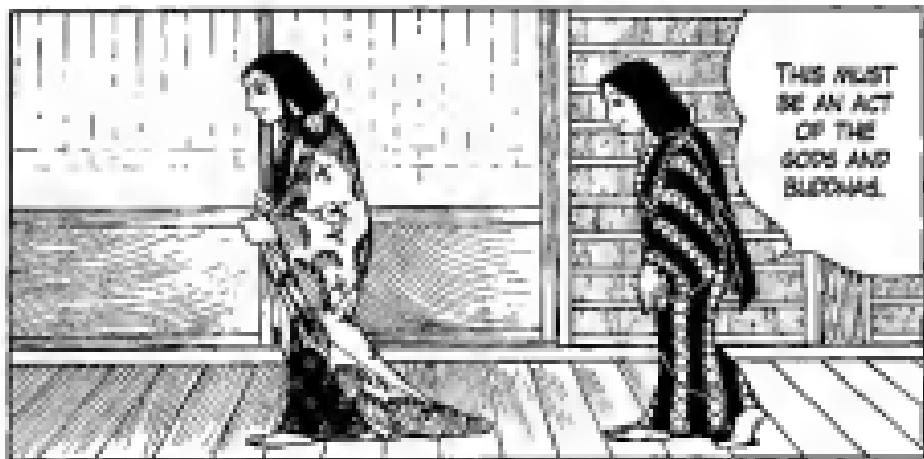


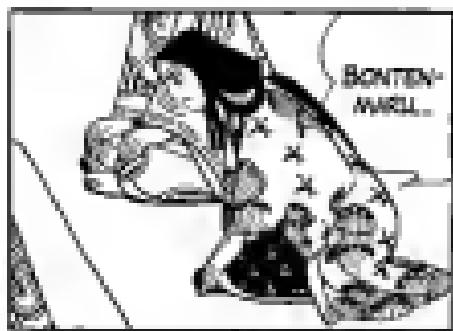












MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

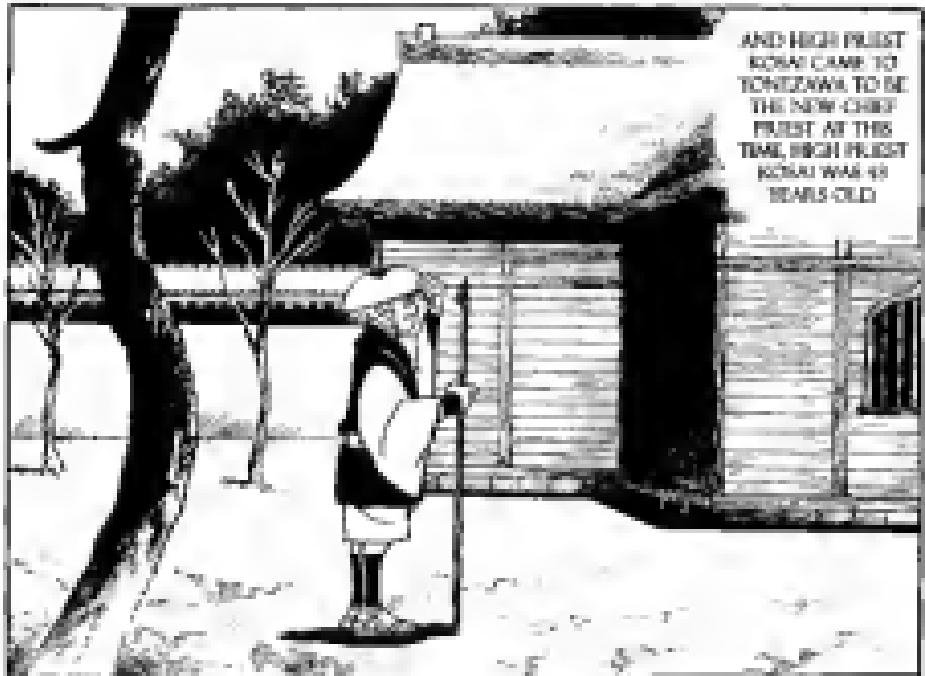
DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 4 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 5: THE VALUE OF LIFE



IN GENKI YEAR, I
(1060), SHIRAKU
TEMPLE, THE TEM-
PLE TRADITIONALLY
HAD SAILED FOR.
KONTEI-SHABU
WAS COMPLETED.
MASAMUNE WAS
NOW SIX YEARS
OLD.



AND HIGH PRIEST
KOBAN CAME TO
TOKEDAWA TO BE
THE NEW CHIEF
PRIEST AT THIS
TIME, HIGH PRIEST
KOBAN WAS 49
YEARS OLD





NOW THEN, THIS
TEMPLE WILL BECOME
BONTEMBAWATU'S SCHOOL.
BUT FIRST, I HAVE CALLED
YOU, HIS PAGES, HIS WET
NURSE, AND HIS GUARDIAN,
BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO
UNDERSTAND MY EDUCATIONAL POLICY.



NO,
NOT AT
ALL...I AM
ASHAMED
TO ADMIT.



LADY WET NURSE,
ARE YOU FAMILIAR
WITH THE WORDS
"TORCH OF SELF"
AND "TORCH OF
DHAMMA?"



ONE DAY, GAUTAMA
BUDDHA GATHERED HIS
DISCIPLES AND TOLD THEM,
"YOU MUST BE TORCHES
UNTO YOURSELVES, REFUGES
UNTO YOURSELVES,
SEEKING NO EXTERNAL
REFUGE..."



I WOULD ASSUME
NOT. NONE OF
US HAVE EVER
DIRECTLY MET
GAUTAMA BUDDHA.
IT IS STILL
HEARSAY EVEN
FOR ME.

THE DHAMMA IS THE NATURAL TRUTH OF THE UNIVERSE. YOU MUST LEARN TO RELY ON IT AND NOT ON OTHERS. THEN YOUR OWN TORCH WILL BEGIN TO BURN. THAT IS WHAT THE "TORCH OF SELF" AND "TORCH OF DHAMMA" MEAN.

BUT IN THE CASE OF THOSE WHO STILL DO NOT HAVE A LIT TORCH OF THEIR OWN, TO RELY ON THE LAW OF DHAMMA AND NOT RELY ON OTHERS.

IT IS ALSO WRITTEN IN THE DHAMMAPADA.. "SELF IS THE LORD OF SELF, WHO ELSE COULD BE THE LORD? WITH SELF WELL SUSTAINED, A MAN FINDS A LORD SUCH AS FEW CAN FIND."

YES.

I ASK THAT YOU LET ME TEACH THESE TO THE YOUNG LORD.

THE STONE BLOCKED THE WATER FROM WELLING UP.
NOW, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?



THERE IS A
PRECIOUS WELL
HERE. A TACTICIAN
CAME ALONG AND
THREW A LARGE
STONE INTO THE
WELL.

ONE
MORE
THING...



YOU,
SAMURAI,
GIVE ME
YOUR
ANSWER.

I WOULD GO
INSIDE AND
REMOVE THE ROCK.



Y-YES. TWO OR THREE
PEOPLE COULD FIT DOWN
THE WELL. AND IF THEY
CARRIED SOMETHING TO
LIFT THE ROCK WITH,
THEY COULD GO DOWN,
PLACE THE ROCK ON
TOP OF IT, AND
PULL IT UP...



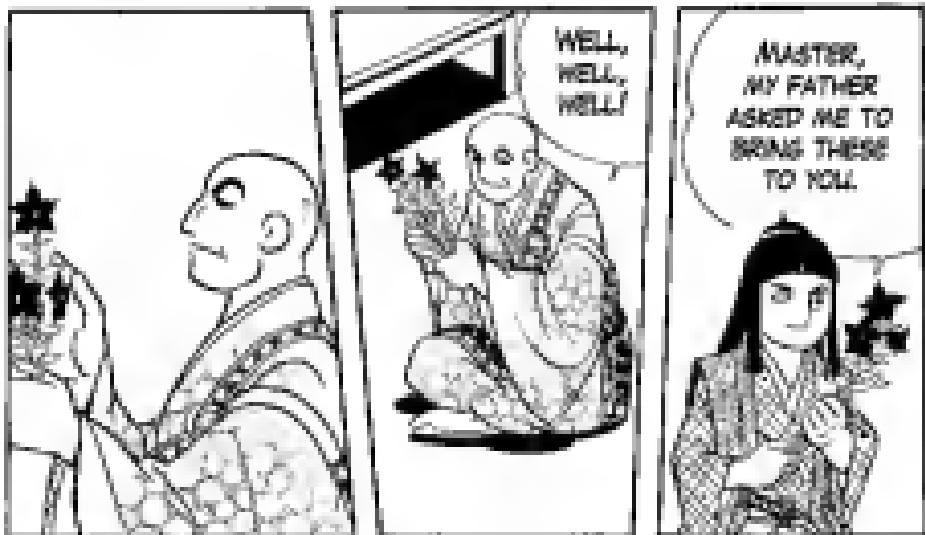
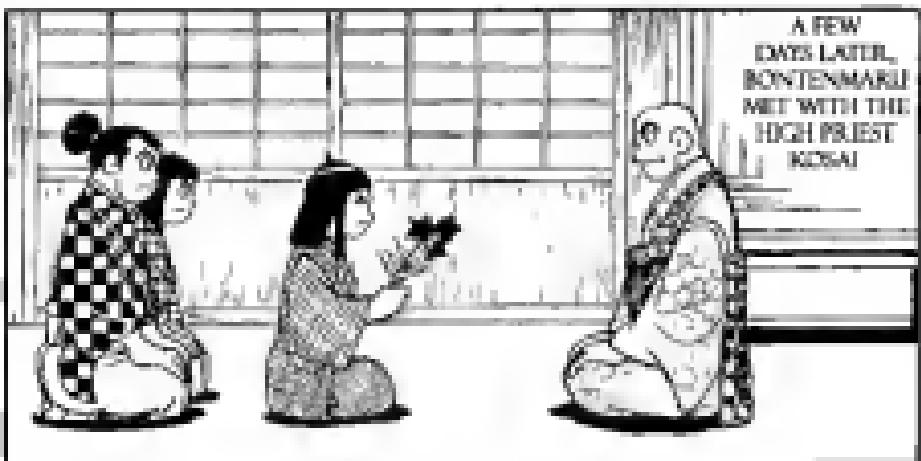
ARE
YOU
SURE?

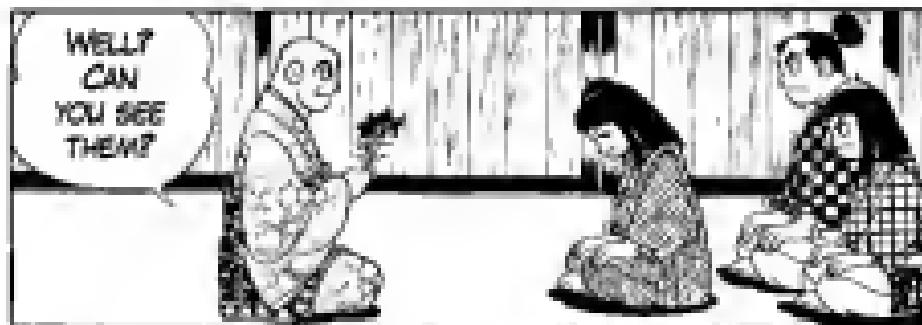




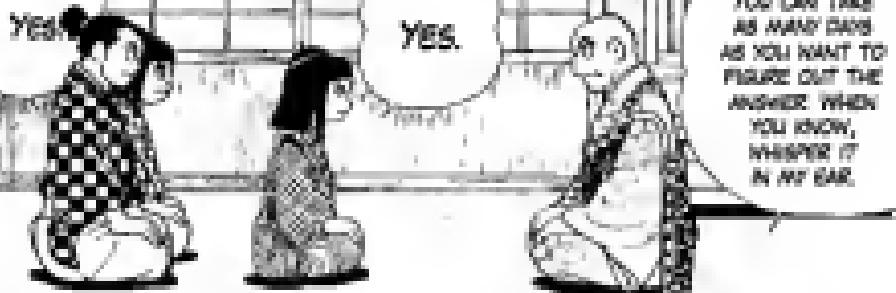


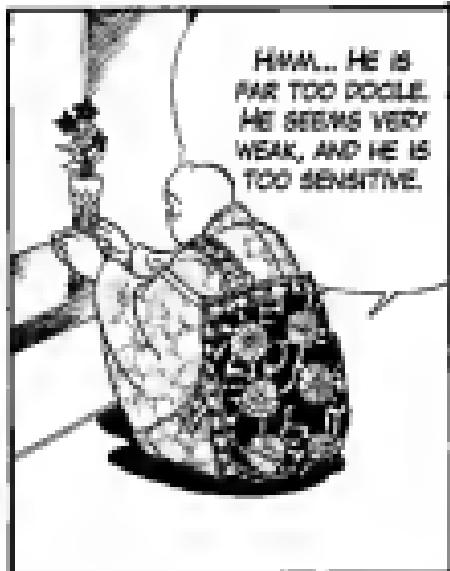
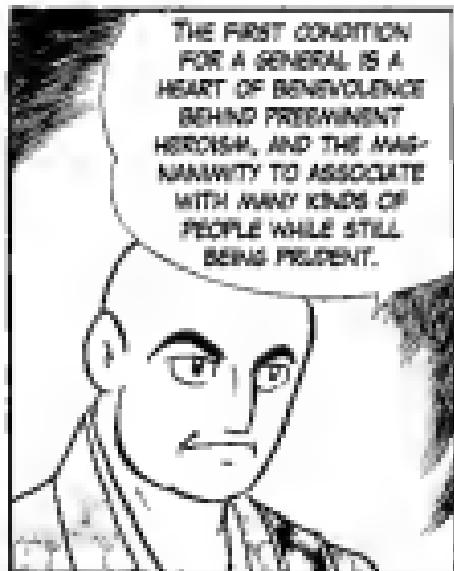
A FEW
DAYS LATER,
BONTENMARU
MET WITH THE
HIGH PRIEST
KOSAI











YONE-ZAWA CASTLE

YES.

BONTEMARE, HIGH
PRIEST KOSAI WANTS YOU
TO STAY AT THE TEMPLE
FOR SOME EDUCATION.
YOU MUST ENDURE HIS
TRAINING, NO MATTER
HOW HARSH.

YES, MY
LORD.

MASA-OYA, I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU





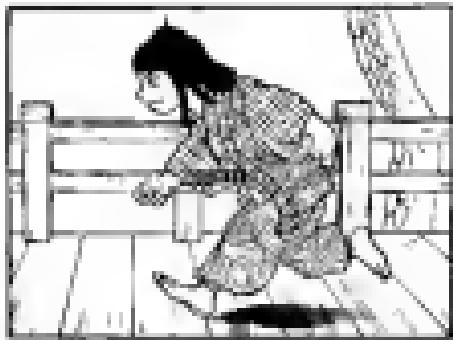
AND SO, WITH
HIS SERVANTS
AND WET NURSE
ACCOMPANYING
HIM, HIS OVER
NIGHT TRAIN
BEGAN.

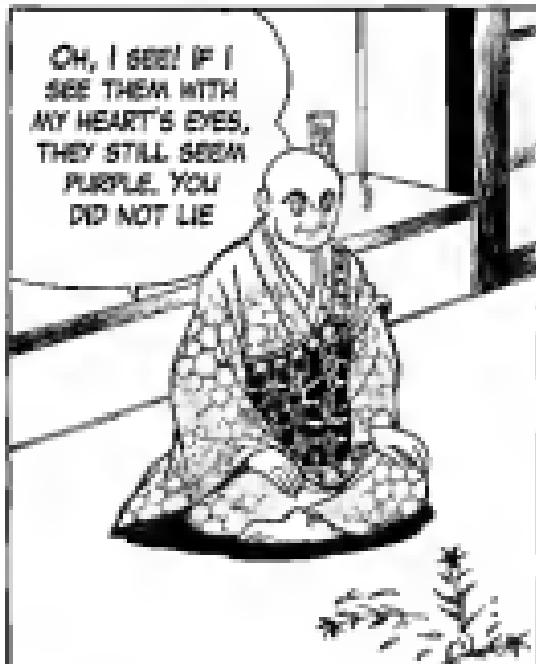
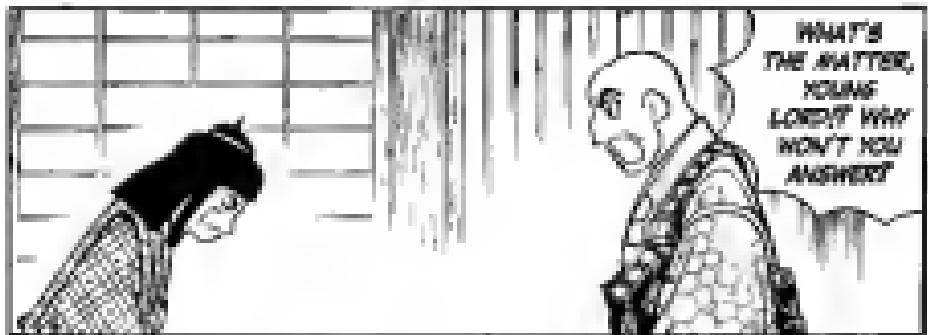


HEY, YOUNG
LORD! GET
OVER HERE!



NOW, HERE'S
YOUR CHANGE
OF CLOTHES,
AND HERE'S
SOME SNACKS.

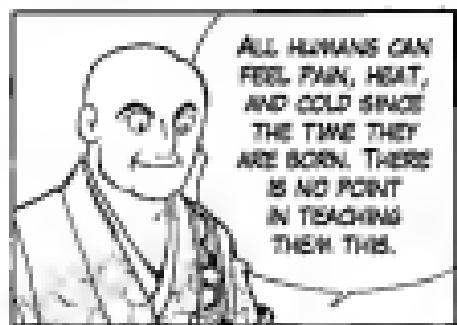






HAAAAHAH! I
MUST APOLOGIZE!
YOU ARE HARDLY
A COWARD; YOU
ARE ADMIRABLY
CROSS-GRAINED!





SO IF SOMETHING
IS INEVITABLE,
I BELIEVE EDUCATION
IS MEANT TO
TEACH OTHERS HOW
TO OVERCOME
PAIN, HEAT, AND
COLDNESS.



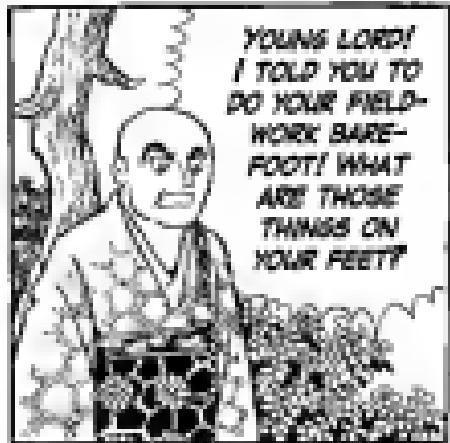
HOWEVER MUCH YOU
TRY AND EVADE THE
EXPERIENCE OF PAIN
AND THE EXPERIENCE
OF SORROW, MAN
IS DESTINED TO
ENCOUNTER THEM.

THAT IS THE
REASON I AM
TEACHING HIM TO
BE OBSTINATE AND
SELF-ASSERTIVE.
THE YOUNG LORD
IS A CLEVER BOY.
HE WILL SOON
UNDERSTAND THIS
PURPOSE.

SIR KOAN, THE WHOLE
CLAN HAS GREAT EXPECTA-
TIONS ON THE YOUNG LORD,
ESPECIALLY LORD TERUMUNE.
THE YOUNG LORD WILL NOT
BE A GREAT SUCCESSIONER IF
HE REFUSES TO ENTER A
RIVER BECAUSE IT IS COLD,
OR WHO TAKES OFF HIS
ARMOR BECAUSE
IT IS HOT.



AND SO
HIGH PRIEST
BORN'S
HARSH
EDUCATION
CONTINUED
INTO THE
THIRD
YEAR.

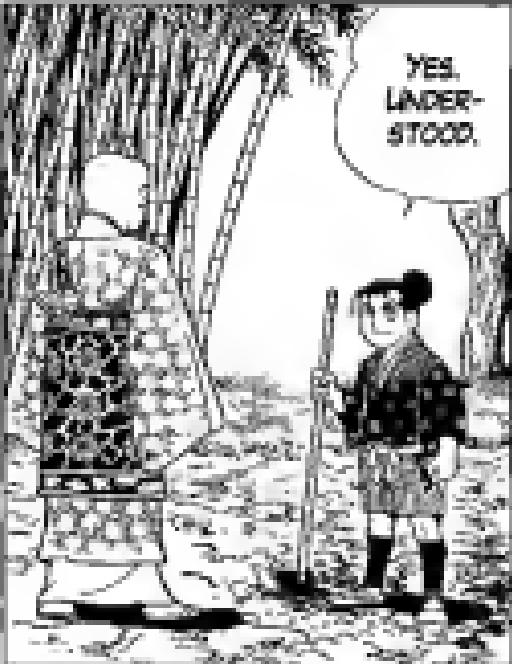




YOU ALREADY
HAVE SHOES
OF YOUR OWN.
TAKE THOSE
OFF!



OH, THESE ARE
NOT ANOTHER'S.
I PUT THESE SHOES
IN CASE I HURT
MY FEET DOING
FIELDWORK.



YES.
UNDER-
STOOD.



WAIT. SINCE YOUR MOTHER
WAS KIND ENOUGH TO PREP-
ARE YOU THOSE SHOES, WEAR
THEM UNTIL THEY WEAR OUT.
AND THEN WHEN THEY WEAR
OUT, YOU WILL HAVE YOUR
OWN SHOES THAT CANNOT
WEAR OUT. SO TELL HER
NOT TO BE CONCERNED.





HEHE-
HE...



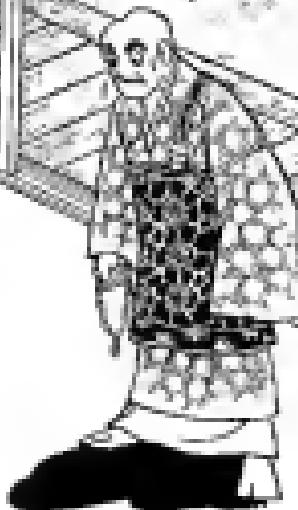
YOUR SHOES WILL
GROW STUPIDER THE
MORE YOU WEAR THEM.
THEY ARE THE REAL
SHOES YOUR MOTHER
GAVE YOU! IT SEEMS
YOUR MOTHER HAS
FORGOTTEN THAT.

WHAT?



YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID
THIS: "HOW CARELESS
WOMEN ARE! THEY ARE
SO QUICK TO FORGET
WHAT THEY GAVE THEIR
SONS WHEN THEY GAVE
BIRTH TO THEM!"

HA
HA
HA!





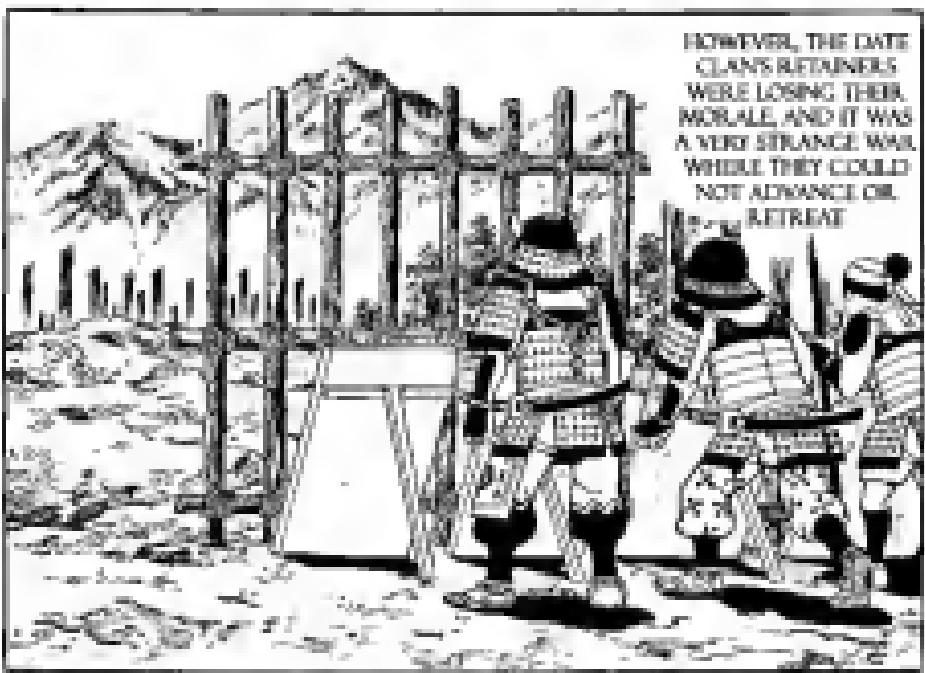
AT THIS TIME, TERUMUNE WAS ENGAGED IN BATTLE WITH SOMA AKITANE.



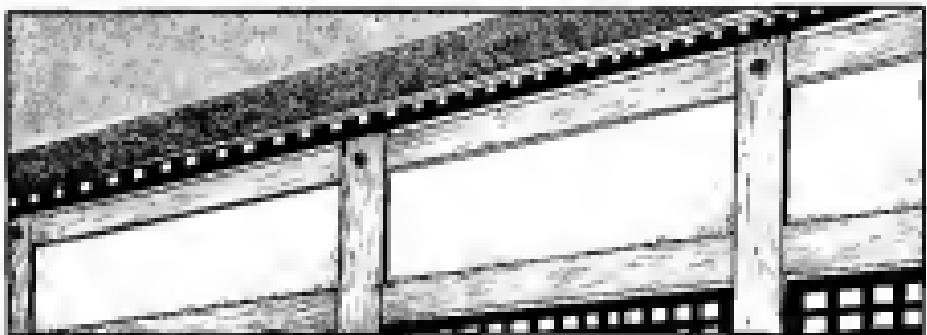
SOMA AKITANE WAS NOT UNRELATED TO THE DATE CLAN. AKITANE'S WIFE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF TERUMUNE'S GRANDFATHER, TANEMUNE, AND THUS TERUMUNE'S AUNT.

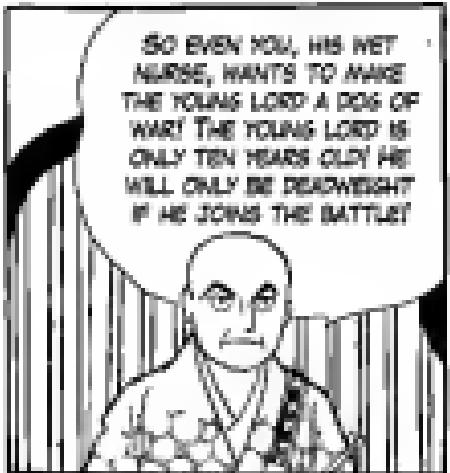
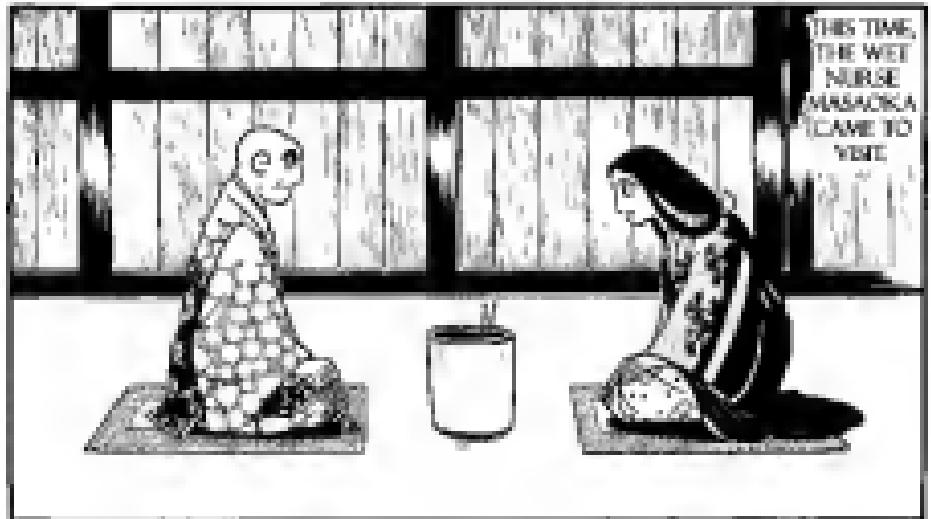
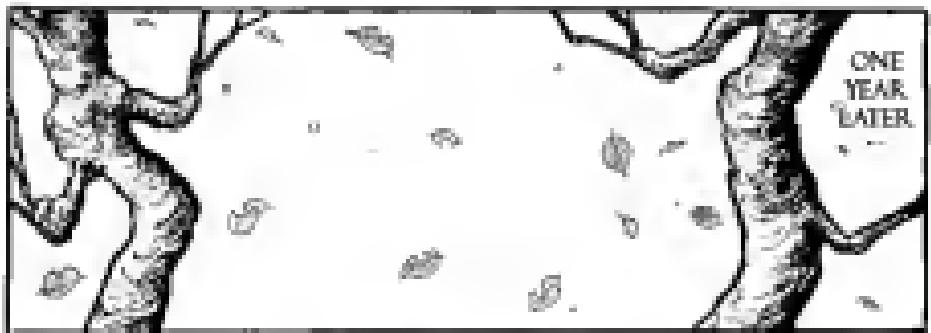


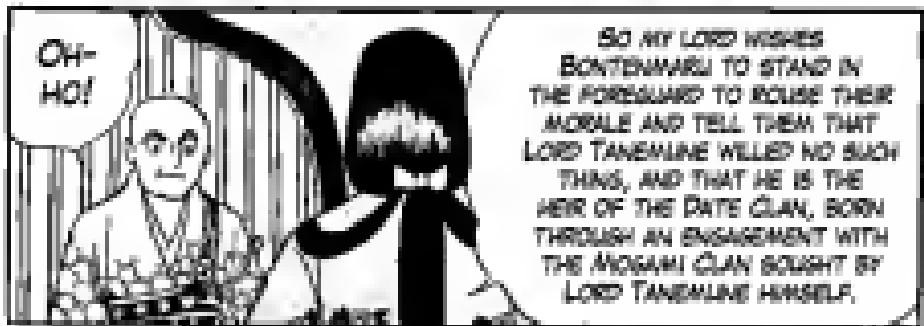
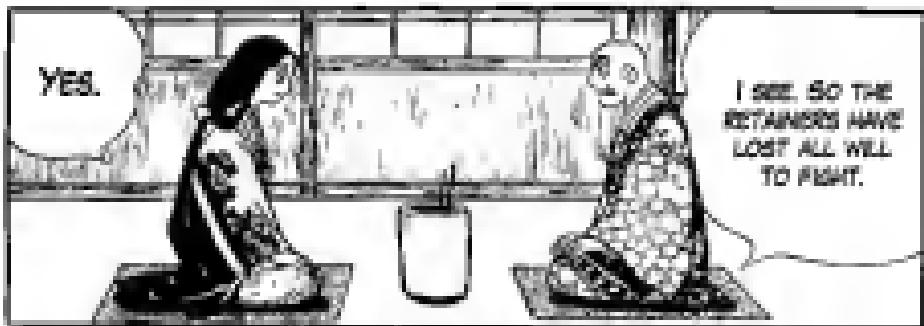
SOMA AKITANE
CLAIMED THAT HIS
FATHER-IN-LAW
TANEMUNE HAD
PROMISED TO GIVE
HIM A PART OF THE
DATE ARMY IN HIS
WILL, BUT TERU-
MUNE WAS AGAINST
THIS, AND THEY
WENT TO WAR.

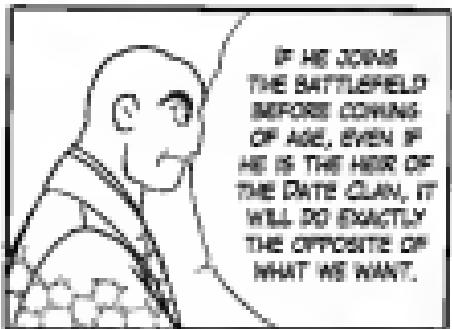


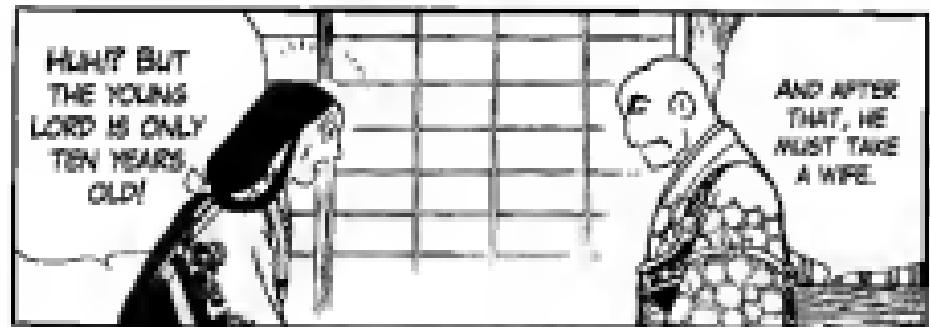
HOWEVER, THE DATE
CLAN'S RETAINERS
WERE LOSING THEIR
MORALE, AND IT WAS
A VERY STRANGE WAR
WHERE THEY COULD
NOT ADVANCE OR
RETREAT

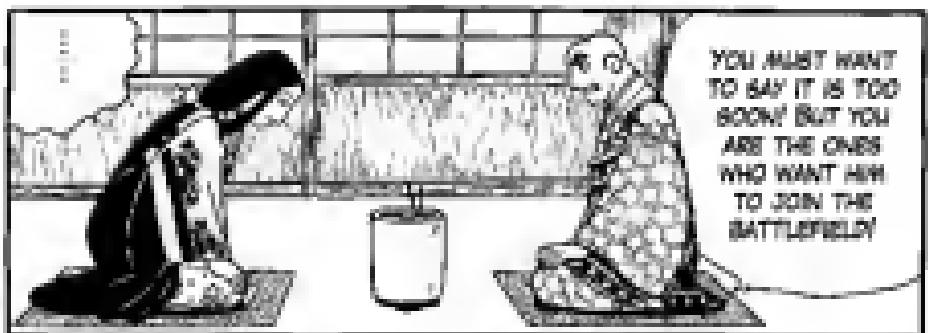












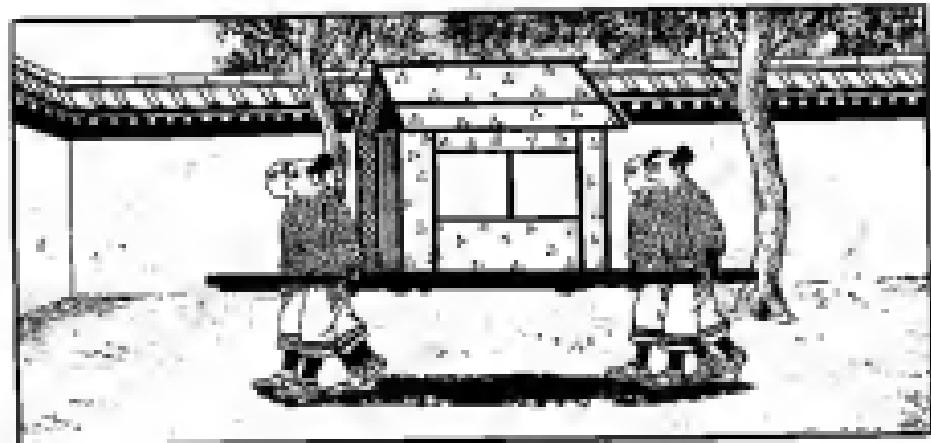
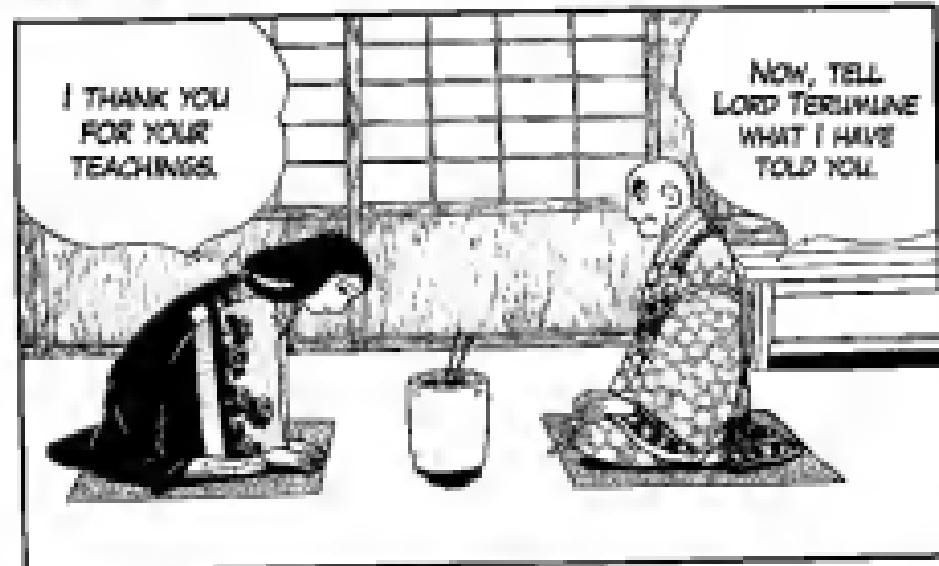
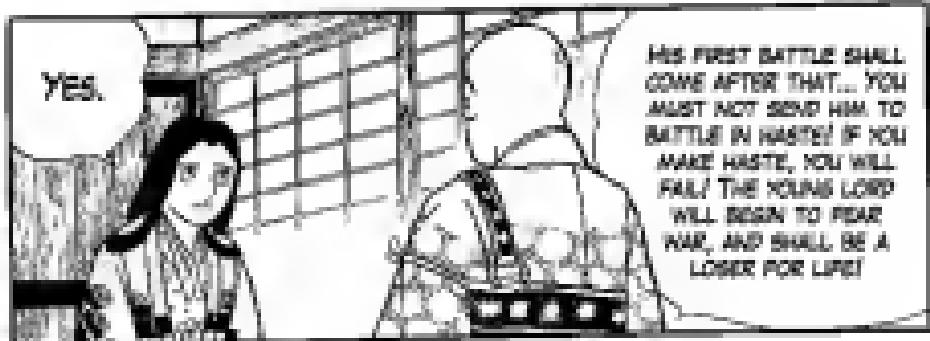
YOU MUST WANT
TO SAY IT IS TOO
SOON! BUT YOU
ARE THE ONES
WHO WANT HIM
TO JOIN THE
BATTLEFIELD!

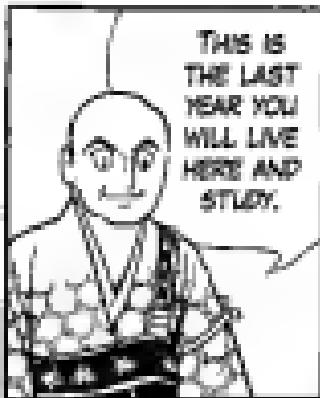
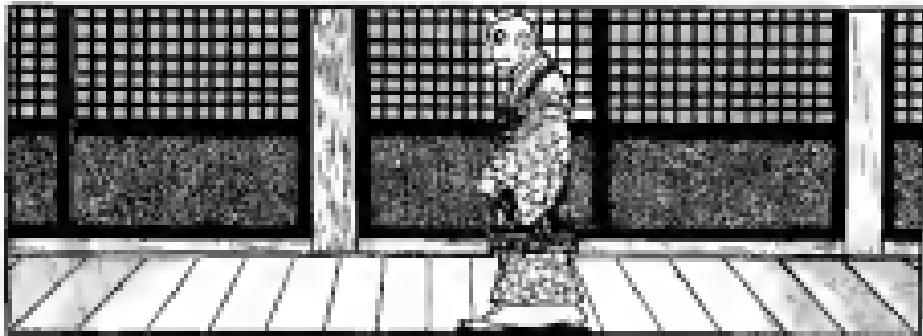


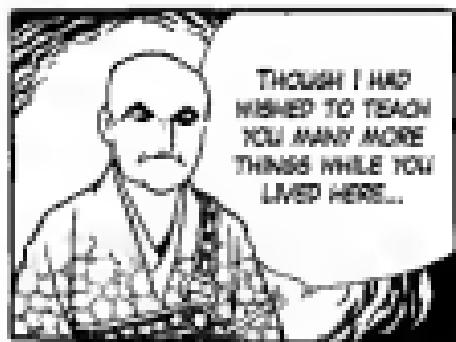
NOW DO YOU
UNDERSTAND, LADY
WET NURSE? WHEN HE
JOINS THE BATTLEFIELD,
HE MUST BE A FINE,
MATURE WARRIOR.
AND A MATURE
WARRIOR SHOULD
HAVE A WIFE...



WHEN THE WORLD KNOWS
THAT THE YOUNG LORD HAS
BEGUN SEEKING A WIFE, THE
WORLD WILL THINK OF THE
YOUNG LORD AS AN ADULT.
ONLY THEN CAN HE SERVE
ON THE BATTLEFIELD.







JANUARY 15,
TENSHO
YEAR 5
(1577)



BONTENMARU
COMES OF AGE
AT THE AGE OF
ELEVEN BY THE
OLD RECKONING.
HE WAS NINE
YEARS AND FIVE
MONTHS OLD
BY MODERN
RECKONING.





THIS IS A TEACHING
TO SHOW THAT
NO ONE CAN LIVE
OR ACCOMPLISH
ANYTHING ON
THEIR OWN.



YOU SAY NEVER
TO RELY ON ANYONE
FOR ANYTHING, BUT
ONE CANNOT CLAP
WITH ONE HAND
ALONE.



I
TRULY
THANK
YOU.



HIGH PRIEST, I ONLY
HAVE ONE EYE, BUT I WILL
BECOME A MAN WHO SEES
MORE OF THE WORLD THAN
THOSE WITH TWO EYES. NOW
I WISH YOU TO TEACH ME
TO BE MORE OBSTINATE
AND CROSS-TRAINED.

MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

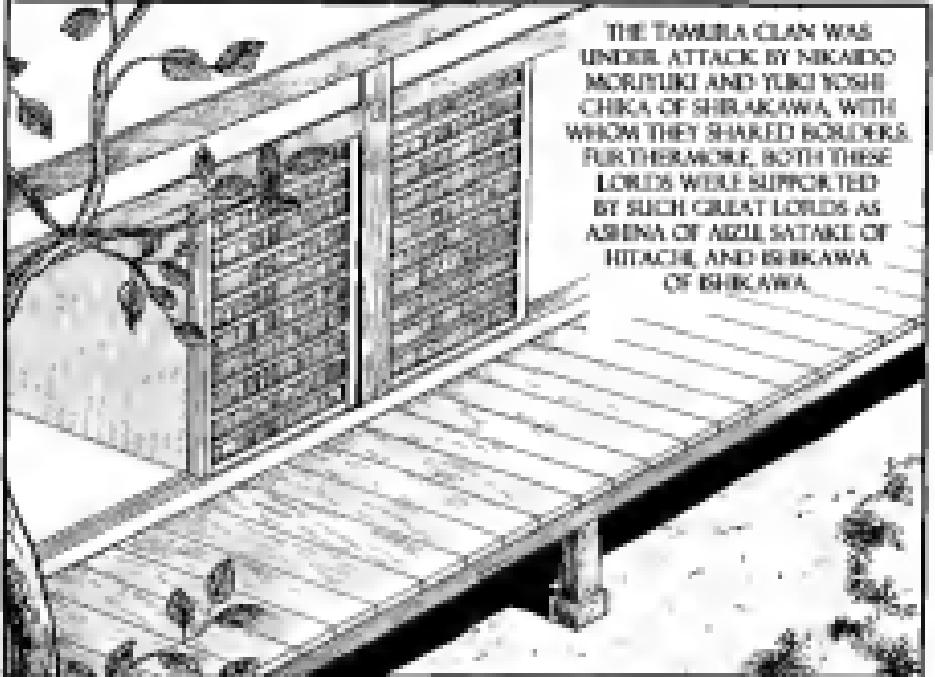
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PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 6: THE STUBBORN MESSENGER

MIHARU
(FUKUSHIMA
PREFECTURE,
TAMURA DISTRICT),
TAMURA CLAN





THE TAWURA CLAN WAS UNDER ATTACK BY NIKAIKO MORITAKI AND YUNI YOSHI CHIKA OF SHIBAKAWA, WITH WHOM THEY SHARED BORDERS. FURTHERMORE, BOTH THESE LORDS WERE SUPPORTED BY SUCH GREAT LORDS AS ASHINA OF AGU, SATAKE OF HITACHI, AND ISHIKAWA OF ISHIKAWA.









ARRANGE
THE ENG-
AGEMENT
BETWEEN
WHOM?

MICHAEL
TAKAMI, I WANT
YOU TO GO
ARRANGE THE
ENGAGEMENT.

THE CHILD OF
THE DATE AND
MEISHIMA...?

IS THAT NOT
OBVIOUS? THE
ENGAGEMENT BE-
TWEEN THE CHILD OF
THE DATE AND MY
ONLY DAUGHTER
MEISHIMA!

THAT IS WHY
I RELY ON YOU
DO EVERY-
THING IN YOUR
POWER TO
ARRANGE
IT!

BUT THE
DATE CLAN
IS GOING
THROUGH
A LOT...

BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON, I WAS NOT BLESSED WITH MANY CHILDREN. ABSOLUTELY ALL I HAVE, THAT IS WHY I MUST CHOOSE THE RIGHT ONE.



TANIGAMI, IF I HAD MANY CHILDREN, I COULD HAVE THEM ENGAGED HERE AND THERE TO PROTECT THE TANIGAMI CLAN.



THEN I SHALL ASK THAT THEY GIVE YOU ONE OF THE CHILDREN THEY GIVE BIRTH TO...



I WILL STABE THE FATE OF THE TANIGAMI CLAN ON THE CHILD OF THE DATE, AND I WILL TAKE ONE OF THE CHILDREN THEY PRODUCE TO INHERIT THE TANIGAMI CLAN THEN THE TANIGAMI CLAN WILL LIVE ON.



EXACTLY. OUR CLAN MAY HAVE LOST ITS INFLUENCE, BUT WE ARE DESCENDANTS OF THE GREAT SHOGUN SAKANOUYE-NO-TANIGAMARU. TELL THE DATE CLAN THAT WE ARE IN NO WAY OF LOWER STATUS THAN THEM.

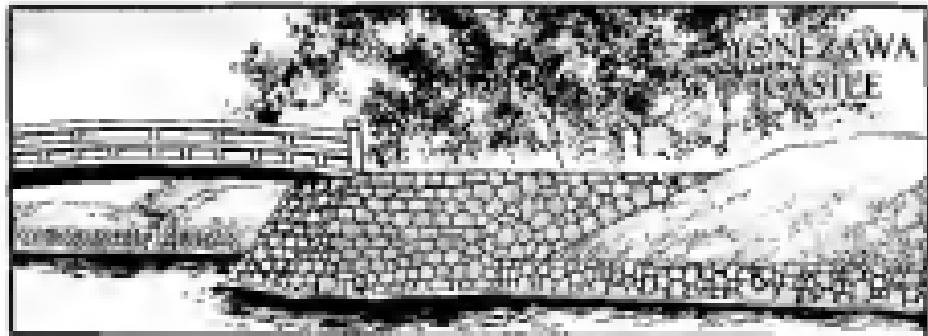
YES,
MY
LORD.

TREAT THIS
ENGAGEMENT
AS IF THE FATE
OF THE TANAKA
CLAN RESTS
ON IT.



I HAVE BEEN GIVEN A
TERRIBLE DUTY. IF I DO NOT
MAKE THIS MATCH HAPPEN,
I CANNOT RETURN TO
MIYAKO ALIVE... BUT I AM
A POOR SPEAKER...







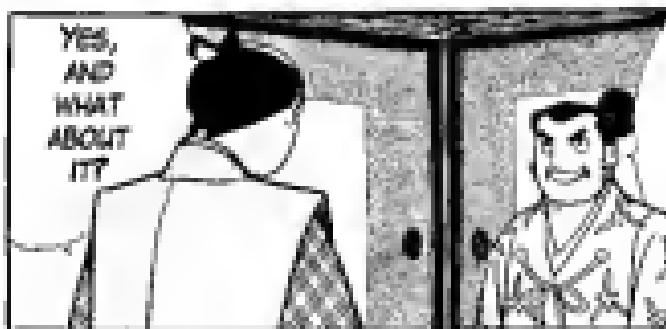


THE TRUTH IS, OUR LORD, TANAKA DAISEN-DAYU, IS EXCEPTIONALLY STUBBORN, SO I MUST NOT TELL YOU A SINGLE LIE. HE COMMANDED ME TO SPEAK WITH YOU WITH UTMOST FRANKNESS.



HUH?

SO I MUST BE FRANK. THE PRINCESS OF MIHARU IS INDEED THE GREATEST PRINCESS IN THIS ENTIRE LAND.



YES,
AND
WHAT
ABOUT
IT

IF SHE WERE TO GO INTO TOWN, ALL THE PEOPLE WOULD GO TO ADMIRE HER BEAUTY. ALL THE RETAINERS AGREE THAT YOU WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO FIND A YOUNG WOMAN AS GRACIOUS AS HER.

WHAT?
I CANNOT
LET THAT
PASS!

I AM SORRY
TO INTERRUPT
YOU, BUT EX-
ACTLY WHAT IS
THIS BEAUTIFUL
PRINCESS
SUITED FOR?

I AM NEITHER
LYING NOR DO I
HAVE THE SLIGHTEST
EXAGGERATION! Thus,
FOR THE GREATEST
GROUCH IN THE
NATION... I BELIEVE
SHE IS WELL-SUITED

BUT YOU HAVE NOT
SAID ANYTHING ELSE
EXCEPT THAT THE
PRINCESS OF MIYAKO
WAS A WOMAN
OF THE RAREST
BEAUTY...

If you dare say this,
then I, MURAKAMI TAKIJI,
CANNOT MAINTAIN MY HONOR
AS A SAMURAI OF THE LINEAGE
OF THE TAMURA CLAN, AND
I MUST COMMIT SEPPUKEI
RIGHT HERE! ARE YOU WELL
AWARE OF THIS?





OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.
I FORGOT
TO PRAISE
MASA-
MUNE...



NOW, THIS IS
UNREASONABLE!
JUST WHAT ARE
YOU TRYING
TO SAY?

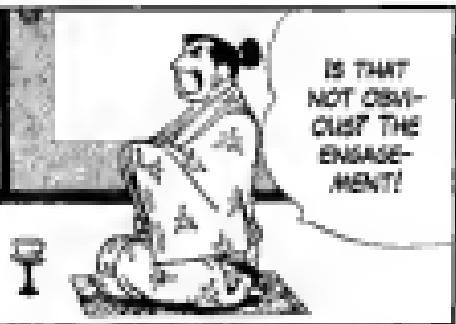
HAVE YOU FAILED
TO HEAR WHAT I
HAVE REPEATED
DOZENS OF TIMES...
UNTIL MY FACE HAS
TURNED BLUET



SIL-
ENCHY!



MASH! THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!
IF YOU DARE QUESTION ME
AGAIN, THEN I, MUKADETE
TAKEKI, SHALL NOT TAKE
A STEP BACK! I SHALL NOT
REPEAT MYSELF AGAIN,
EVEN IF YOU FORCE ME!



YES, A PROPOSAL!
WE DO NOT HAVE MANY
TEARS. THE PRINCESS
IS NOW TWELVE, AND
THE GROOM IS THIR-
TEEN, SO WE DO NOT
BELIEVE A CHILD WILL
BE BORN RIGHT AWAY.



I MUST GIVE
MY LORD A
WARNING...

BUT THAT SAID, THE
TANAKA WILL CAUSE US
MUCH LOSS... WE WILL
DIRECTLY MAKE ENEMIES
OF THE NABEKO AND THE
YURI, AND INDIRECTLY
MAKE ENEMIES OF THE
ASHINA OF AIZU AND
SATAKE OF HITACHI.

HMM... DID
ONE OF THE
DATE ALREADY
REQUEST AN
ENGAGE-
MENT...?



CHIEF
RETAINER,
OUR LORD
HAS RE-
TURNED.







SO IT WAS
NOT THE DATE
CLAN THAT RE-
QUESTED IT?



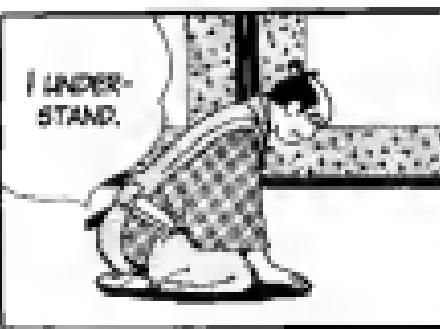
WHAT AN
ENGAGEMENT
BETWEEN MASAHARU
AND THE
PRINCESS OF THE
TANAKA CLAN. IF
WE DO THE TANAKA
CLAN REQUEST
THIS?



I THOUGHT THE SAME.
AT ANY RATE, I WAS
WONDERING IF ANYONE
ELSE HAD REQUESTED
AN ENGAGEMENT FOR
LORD MASAHARU.



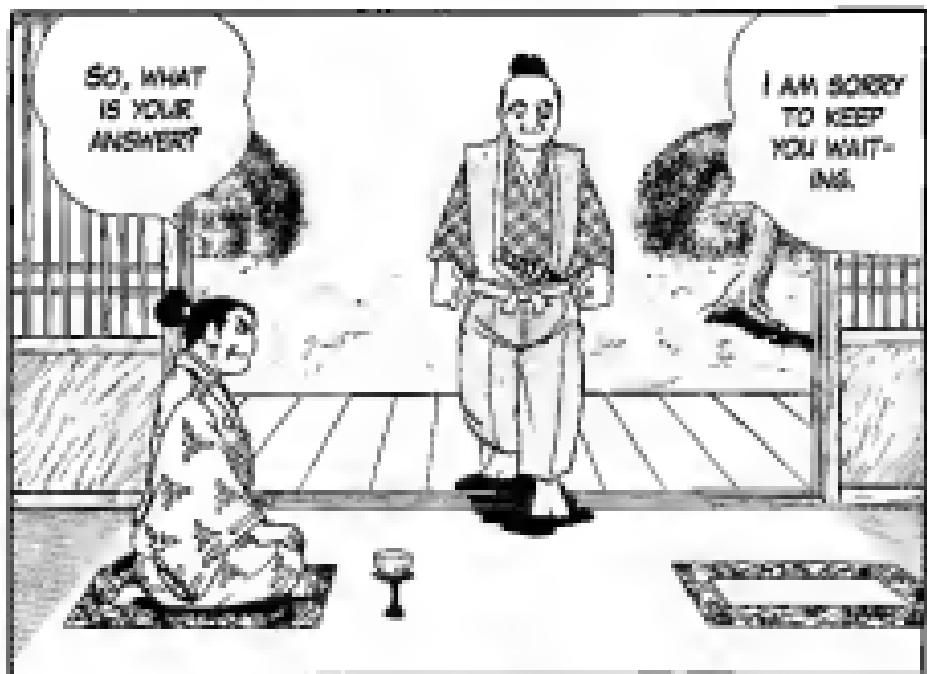
DON'T BE RASH-
LOUS! IF WE TAKE
A BRIDE FROM THE
TANAKA, WE WILL
MAKE ENEMIES EVEN
OF THE ASHINA AND
SATSUMA!



I UNDER-
STAND.



AT ANY RATE,
THINK OF HIS
HONOR AND
TURN HIM
DOWN.



WHAT'S HIS
BROTHER
KOJIRO?



IT IS THE
FIRSTBORN
MASAHARU THAT
IS THIRTEEN.
HIS BROTHER,
SIR KOJIRO
(TSUKIHARU)
IS TWELVE.

YOU ONLY SAID
YOU BOUGHT A GROOM.
MASAHARU IS THE
SUCCESSOR OF THE
DATE CLAN. WE
CANNOT SEND HIM
WHAT AS A GROOM.



SIR ENDO, WHEN
DID I SAY I HAVE
A PROPOSAL FOR
THE YOUNGER
BROTHER?



WHY DO YOU
SILENCE ME? AN
ENGAGEMENT IS
A CONFERENCE
TO SEEK A GOOD
MATCH! SAYING
SILENCE IS NOT
LOGICAL!



SIL-
ENCE!



I WILL NOT LEAVE!
DO YOU THINK THAT
I, MURAKAMI TAKANO,
WOULD LEAVE WITH
THE TWELVE-YEAR-
OLD KOUNO AS
THE GROOM?

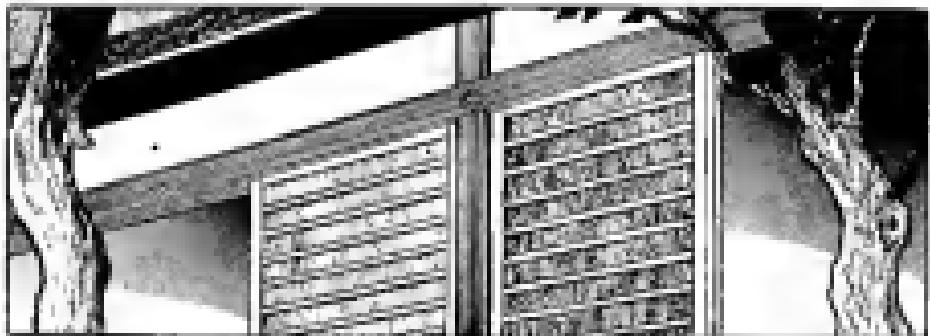
IF YOU DO NOT
WISH TO DISCUSS
THIS, I MUST ASK
YOU TO LEAVE
AT ONCE!



NOW, NOW,
PLEASE WAIT.
I MUST GO
DISCUSS THIS
WITH MY LORD
AGAIN.

IF I CANNOT SETTLE
THIS ENGAGEMENT,
I CANNOT FACE MY
LORD! I MUST
COMMIT SEPPUKU
HERE!





YES.
THERE'S
NOTHING I
CAN DO.

WHAT YOU WERE
TRYING TO TURN HIM
DOWN THINKING OF HIS
HONOR, BUT HE COULDN'T
UNDERSTAND IT AND IN-
STEAD HE WOULD MEET
HIS END IN A FOREIGN
CASTLE!



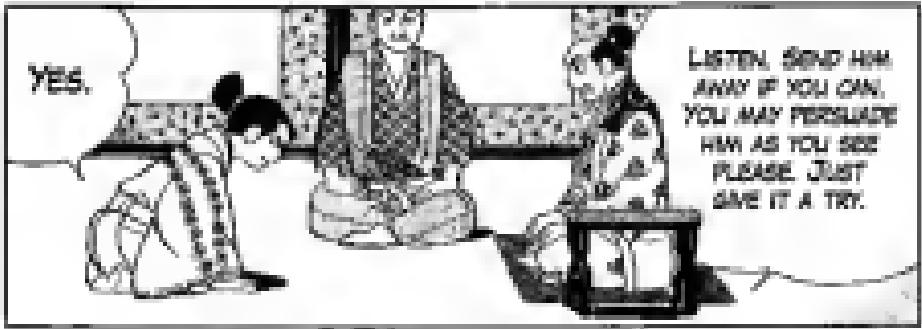
YESS, MY LORD.

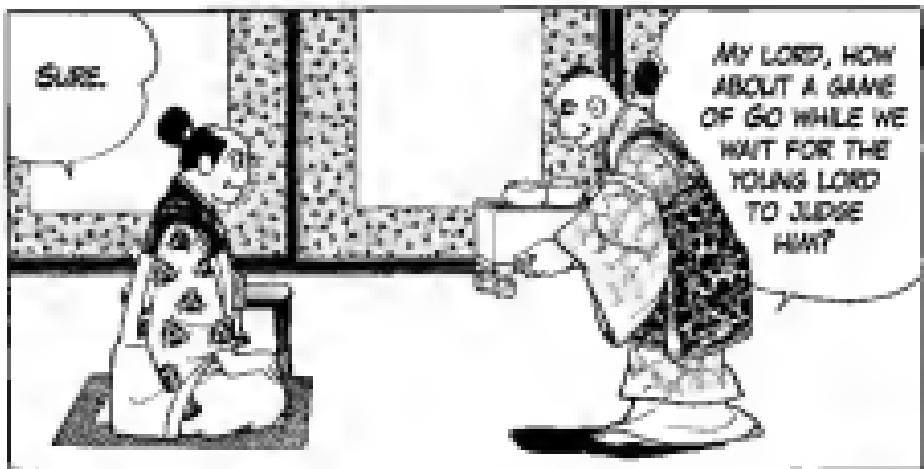
VERY WELL.
IF HE MUST
COMMIT SEPPUKU,
LET HIM THROW
HIS CORPSE INTO
THE HAKUBO
RIVER.















WHAT DID YOU
SAY TO MAKE
THAT STUBBORN
GUY GO?

SO IT
SEEMS THAT
THE YOUNG LORD
HAS SUCCESSFULLY
FINISHED OFF
A BOAR OF
MAMARU.

WHAT?
YOU MEAN YOU
ASKED HIM TO
COME BACK AND
DISCUSS THIS
MATTER ON
NOVEMBER
28?

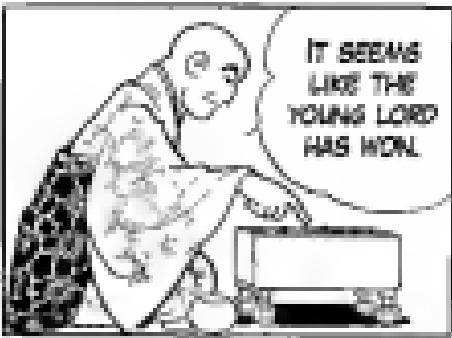
WE HAVE
SETTLED ON
THE DATE OF
NOVEMBER
28.

W-
WHAT
IT

THAT DAY
IS THE MOST
AUSPICIOUS DAY
OF THIS YEAR.
THEREFORE,
WE SHALL
HAVE OUR
CEREMONY
THEN.

YES.

MASAMUNE,
ARE YOU
SERIOUS?







IT IS NOT THAT
I AM AFRAID OF WAR.
I AM SEEKING AN
EVEN GREATER ENEMY.
SOMEONE LIKE ODA
NOBUHISA, FOR
INSTANCE...



A
SMALL ENEMY
MEANS SMALL
TENSION. AND
SMALL TENSION
MAKES PEOPLE
SMALLER.



WHY DO
YOU SEEK
A GREATER
ENEMY?



SO YOU WANT
TO MAKE EN-
EMIES OF THE
ASHINA AND
SATAKE?

IT SEEMS ASHIBU
IS SAYING THAT I MUST
BE THE GROOM. IF I TAKE
THEIR PRINCESS AS MY
BRIDE, THE TENSION WILL
BE EVEN GREATER. WE
WILL MAKE ENEMIES
OF THE ASHINA AND
SATAKE.

WE SHOULD NOT
MAKE ENEMIES
OF THE TAKURA
OR SONYA. THEY
WILL BE BETTER
AS ALLIES.

THAT
WOULD RESULT
IN GREATER
TENSION AND
GREATER TENSION
MAKES PEOPLE
GREATER.

YES.

I SEE. SO
YOU'RE SAYING
WE SHOULD DO
IT, EVEN IF
IT IS MORE
TROUBLE.

IT SEEMS
YOU'RE A
LITTLE WRONG
ON THAT.

THAT IS TRULY A BOLD
PROPOSITION. BUT WE STILL
CANNOT KEEP THE SONNA'S
AMBITION IN CHECK, AND THEY
ARE ASSAULTING THE SHOGUN
AND DATE ARMY. SO THERE
IS NO NEED TO GO OUT OF OUR
WAY TO MAKE ENEMIES OF THE
ASHINA AND SATAKI



AS YOU HAVE SAID,
THE SHINOSU AND
DATE ARMY ARE
STILL NOT CONSOLI-
DATED. THIS THERE
IS NO REASON TO
ANGER THE TANAKA
OF ANHARU, WHO ARE
UNPARALLELED IN
SMALL WARS.



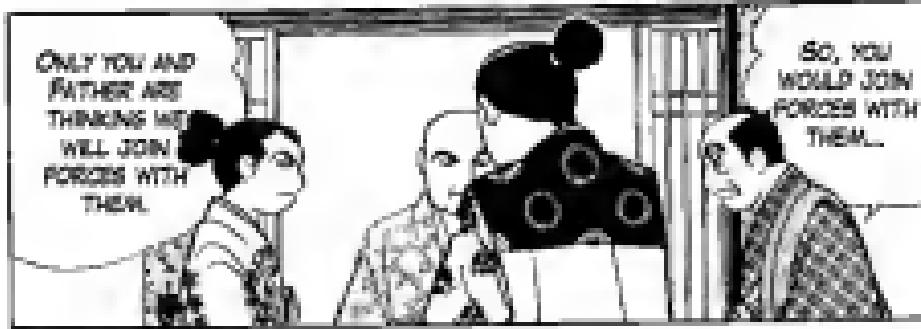
WHAT?
I'M
WRONG
??



BESIDES,
THE LORD OF
ANHARU HAS
NO CHILDREN
BUT MEISHO-
HIME.



AHH...



ONLY YOU AND
FATHER ARE
THINKING WE
WILL JOIN
FORCES WITH
THEM.

SO, YOU
WOULD JOIN
FORCES WITH
THEM...



NOW THE ANHARU
CAN REINFORCE THE
ARMIES OF THE DATE
AND SHINOSU. WE CAN
DELIGHT THEM AND
ALSO GUARD OUR-
SELVES.

I THINK
DIFFERENTLY. WE
WILL TAKE THEIR
ONLY DAUGHTER
INTO OUR HOME.
WHAT SUPER
HOSTAGE COULD
WE ASK FOR?



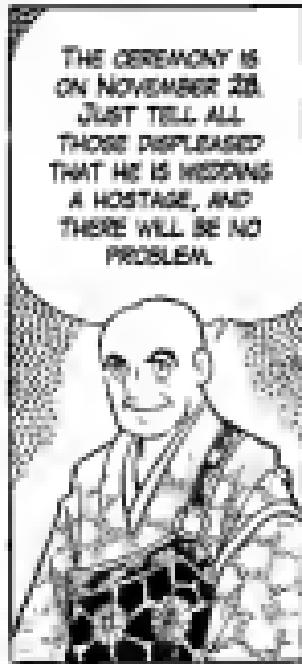
THIS CAN-
NOT BE HOW
A THIRTEEN-
YEAR-OLD BOY
THINKS, CAN
IT?



WHAT'S
THIS? IF HE'S
READ INTO THIS
DEEPER THAN
US...



YOUNG LORD! IT
SEEMS YOU HAVE
COME TO SEE THE
MAY THE WORLD
WISH! WE ALL
APPROVE OF THIS
MARRIAGE!



THE CEREMONY IS
ON NOVEMBER 28.
JUST TELL ALL
THOSE displeased
THAT HE IS MARRIED
A HOSTAGE, AND
THERE WILL BE NO
PROBLEM.

MASAMUNE DALE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 6 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 7: THE SMALL BRIDE



YES, I KNOW,
AND YET I DO
NOT KNOW!

YOUNG LORD, THE
DAY THE PRINCESS
OF MIHARU WILL
COME TO MARRY
YOU IS NEAR. DO
YOU KNOW HOW
TO TREAT A
WIFE?

I THOUGHT
SO. THAT'S
WHY I DIDN'T
ASK.

I WOULD SUGGEST SO.
I WOULD LOVE TO
TEACH YOU ALL
ABOUT IT, BUT I
HAVE NEVER HAD
ONE OF MY OWN
SO I CANNOT
TELL YOU.

IF YOU
WANTED ONE
THAT MUCH,
WHY DID YOU
GIVE UP?

ENOUGH
OF YOUR LIP.
YOU KNOW, WHEN
I WAS YOUNG,
THERE WERE TIMES
WHEN I DESIRED A
WOMAN SO MUCH
I COULD HARDLY
BEAR IT.



I WANTED TO STUDY.
I WANTED TO WRESTLE
WITH GAUTAMA
BUDDHA. I WANTED TO
PRACTICE CALLIGRAPHY,
AND I WANTED TO
PAINT. BUT I WAS TOO
COVETOUS TO WANT
ALL THESE THINGS.



WELL,
THERE WERE
TOO MANY
OTHER THINGS
I WANTED
MORE.



SO YOU
HAVEN'T
GIVEN UP
YET?



SO I DECIDED
TO TACKLE
EACH ONE BY
ONE, AND PUT
WOMEN ON
HOLD.



I'M NOT SO WEAK-WILLED
TO GIVE UP ON SOME-
THING I WANT SO EASILY.
WHEN I AM NO LONGER
AFRAID OF MY MASTERS,
I PLAN TO MARRY THE
HOBEST WOMAN IN
JAPAN.



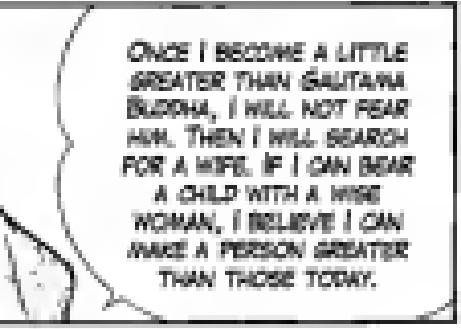
THAT
SHOULD BE
OBVIOUS.
IT'S
GAUTAMA
BUDDHA.



AND WHO
WOULD YOUR
MASTER
BE?



CHILDREN
TODAY ARE
SIMPLY NOISY.
THEY ARE NOT
MATURE AT
ALL.



ONCE I BECOME A LITTLE
GREATER THAN GAUTAMA
BUDDHA, I WILL NOT FEAR
HIM. THEN I WILL SEARCH
FOR A WIFE. IF I CAN
FIND A CHILD WITH A NICE
WOMAN, I BELIEVE I CAN
MAKE A PERSON GREATER
THAN THOSE TODAY.



OH-HOH I'M IMPRESSED
YOU CAUGHT THAT! YOU
STILL CAN'T TELL BLACK
FROM WHITE. ALL YOU
KNOW IS VAGUE KNOWL-
EDGE, LIKE THAT BOILING
WATER IS HOT AND
FRESH WATER IS COLD.



ARE YOU
INSINUATING
THAT I'M
A NOISY
CHILD?



EXACTLY! IF YOU LEAVE BOILING WATER OUTSIDE IN MID-WINTER, IT BECOMES COLD, AND IF YOU SET A FIRE UNDER COLD, FRESH WATER, IT BECOMES HOT!



ARE YOU SAYING THAT BOILING WATER IS COLD AND FRESH WATER IS HOT?

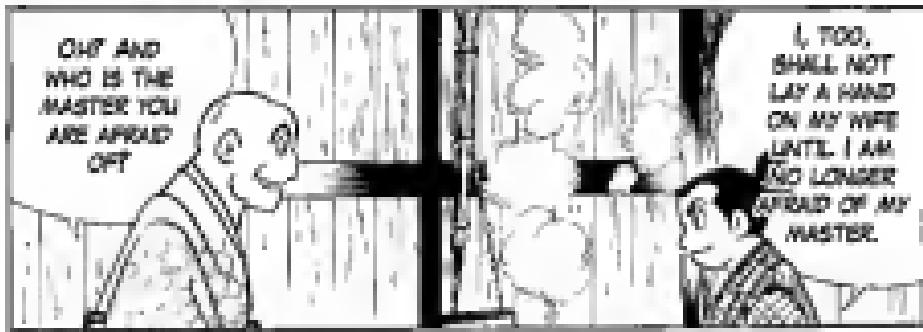


HOWEVER, A SALT COPPER STATUE OF THE BUDDHA MAY NOT SERVE MUCH PURPOSE, BUT PEOPLE LIGHT INCENSE AND TORCHES AROUND IT...

THUS, EVERYTHING CHANGES BASED ON THE EFFECTS OF ITS ENVIRONMENT. FOR INSTANCE, THIS KETTLE IS MADE OF COPPER, BUT IT IS KEPT ABLAZE AND NOT CONSIDERED TO BE VERY IMPORTANT.



NOW, WILL YOU MAKE YOUR HIKE A KETTLE, OR A BUDDHA.. THAT IS WHAT I AM WORRIED ABOUT.





THAT'S RIGHT.
IF SOMEONE
WHO CAN SLEEP
WITH A WOMAN
IS OFF SLEEPING
SOMEWHERE ELSE,
HE WILL BE SEEN
AS A USELESS
DROWSED MAN.



HUH...?
I MUST
SLEEP.
SO I
MUST NOT
SLEEP!



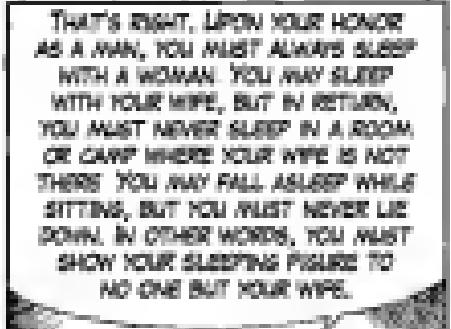
WITHOUT A
WOMAN...



YOU MUST
NEVER SLEEP
WITHOUT
A WOMAN.
BEAR THAT
IN MIND.



THEN
I JUST
WON'T
SLEEP
AT ALL.



THAT'S RIGHT, UPON YOUR HONOR
AS A MAN, YOU MUST ALWAYS SLEEP
WITH A WOMAN. YOU MAY SLEEP
WITH YOUR WIFE, BUT IN RETURN,
YOU MUST NEVER SLEEP IN A ROOM
OR CAMP WHERE YOUR WIFE IS NOT
THERE. YOU MAY FALL ASLEEP WHILE
SITTING, BUT YOU MUST NEVER LIE
DOWN. IN OTHER WORDS, YOU MUST
SHOW YOUR SLEEPING FIGURE TO
NO ONE BUT YOUR WIFE.



IF YOU
CAN'T DO
THAT, YOU
WON'T BE
A MAN
AMONG
MEN.





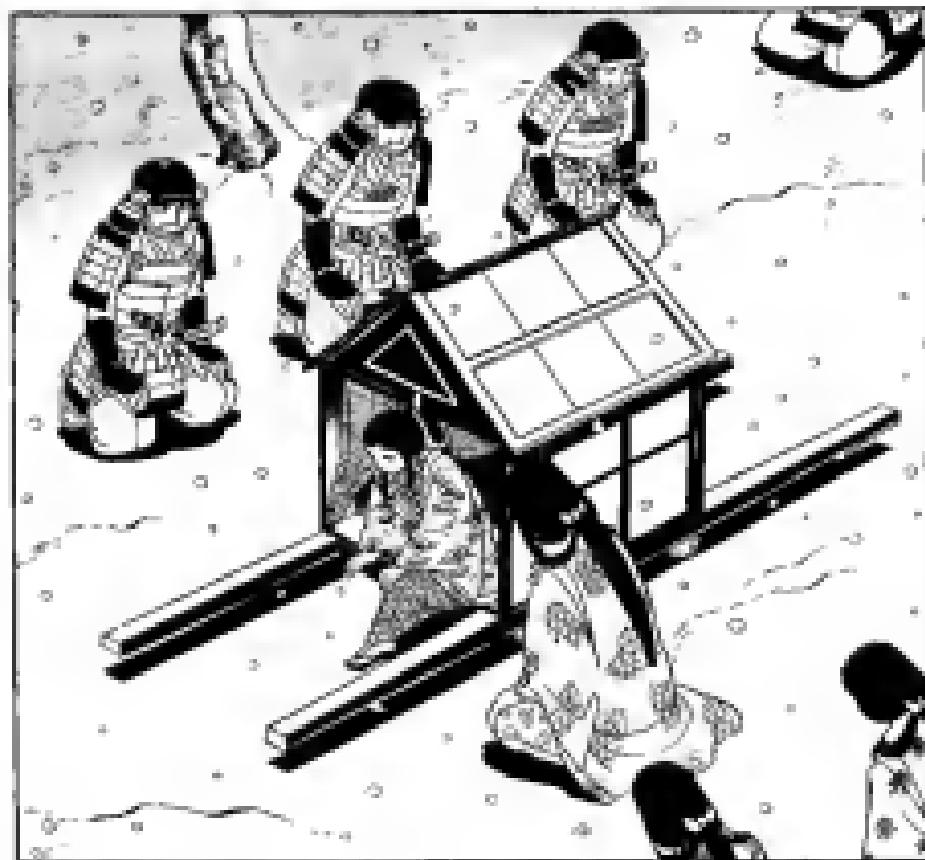
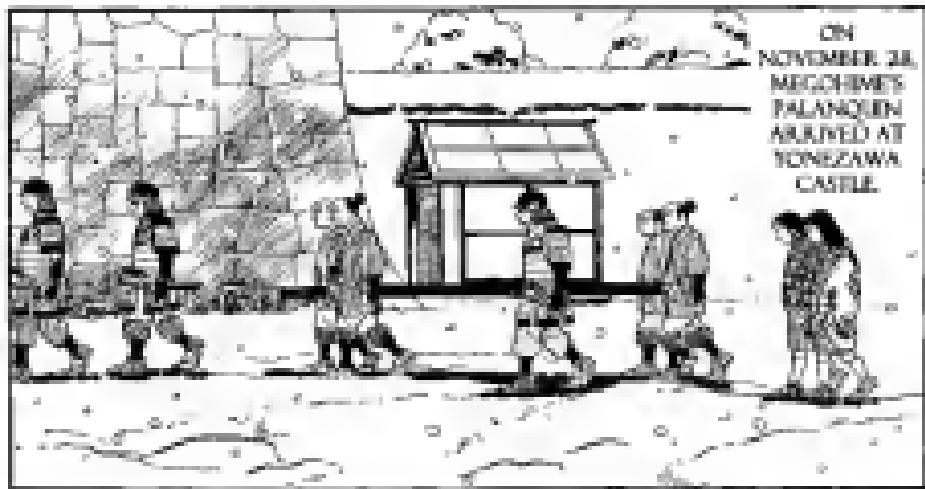
YOU'D MAKE EXCUSES
LIKE "I CAUGHT A COLD"
OR "MY HEAD HURTS"
AND YOUR POSTURE
WILL CRUMBLE. SUCH A
MAN IN YOUR POSITION
WOULD NEVER COM-
MAND AN ARMY!

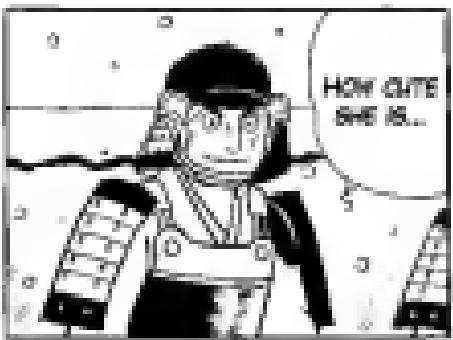
UNTIL HE DIED AT
THE AGE OF SEVENTY,
HE NEVER LAY DOWN
IN FRONT OF HIS PAVELS.
HE WOULD ALWAYS SIT
WITH THEM AWAKE OR
PROP HIMSELF UP WITH
A PILLAR TO KEEP
SITTING.

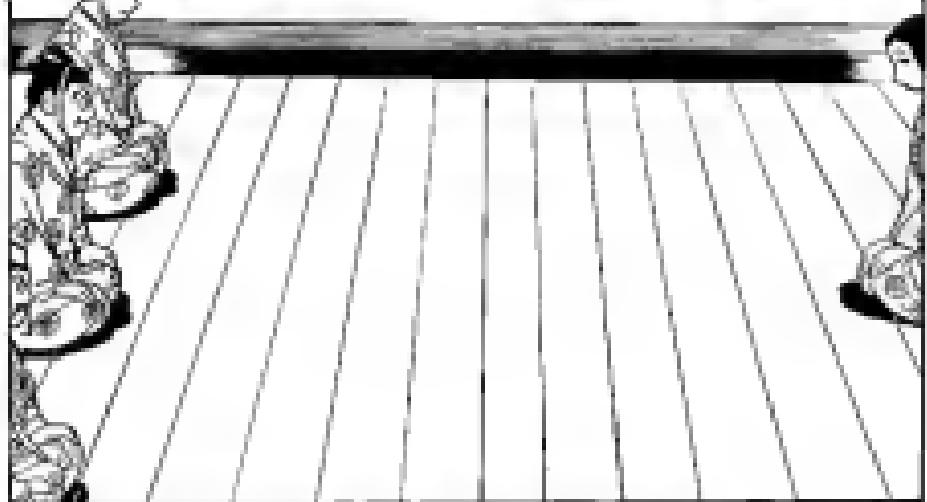
THAT WAS THE
ONLY WARNING KOSAI
GAVE HIM REGARDING
HIS MARRIAGE, BUT IT
BECAME A LIFE LESSON
THAT MASAMUNE
STRICTLY ADHERED
TO.



ON
NOVEMBER 28,
MURAKAMI'S
PALANQUIN
ARRIVED AT
TONEZAWA
CASTLE.





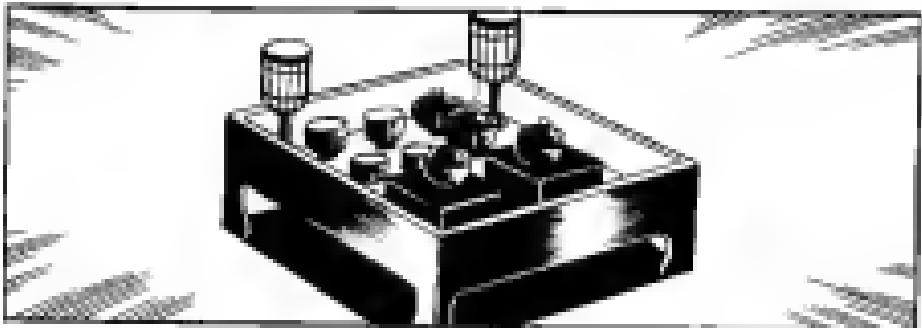
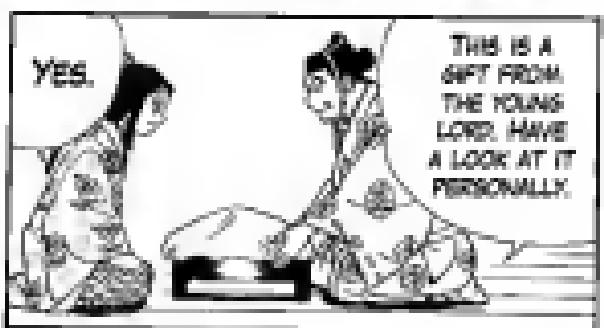


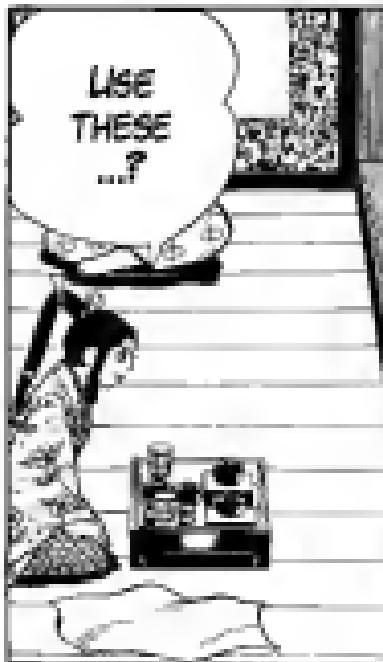
I AM
MEGO OF
MIHARU.



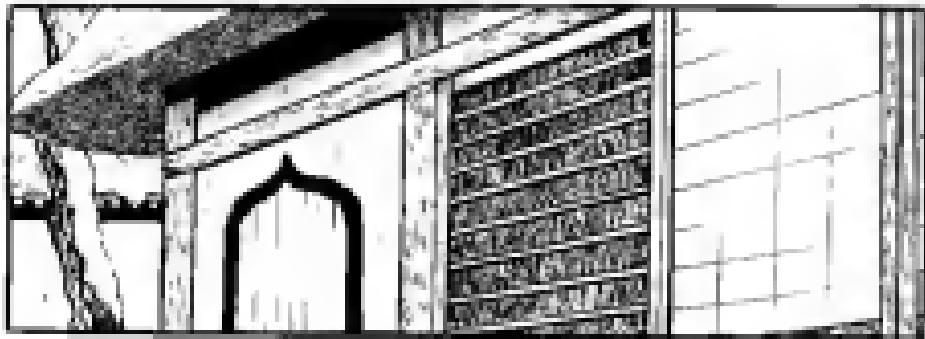
YOSHIMI HAD BECOME THE MOTHER OF TWO DAUGHTERS. WITH TWO SONS AND TWO DAUGHTERS, SHE COULD NOT LEAVE THE CASTLE. WHEN SHE WANTED TO IRITATION CAUSED HER TO OPPOSE EVERYTHING HER HUSBAND DID. SHE OPPOSED FOR THE SAKE OF OPPOSITION, AND REVOLTED FOR THE SAKE OF REVOLTING.













HER
HATRED IS
INSTEAD
MAKING
THE CHILD
GREAT-
ER.



BUT LADY
MOSAMI
STOPPED
THAT FOR
US.



THE
Cleverness
OF THE
UNIVERSE
KNOWS NO
BOUNDS.



WELL,
HATRED
IS A FORM
OF LOVE,
AFTER
ALL.



OH, I SEE.
BRING THEM
HERE.



HIGH PRIEST!
THE YOUNG
LORD AND
MESCHIME ARE
IN SIGHT!







MATSUNAGA HISAHIDE HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE ON ANT. SHIZU IN YAMATO, AND THE ONLY ONE LEFT WHO CAN STAND AGAINST LORD ODA NOBUNAGA'S CONQUEST IS MORT OF AKL...

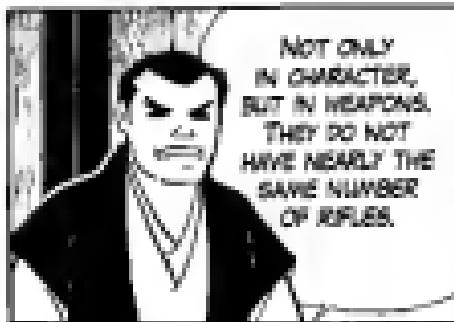
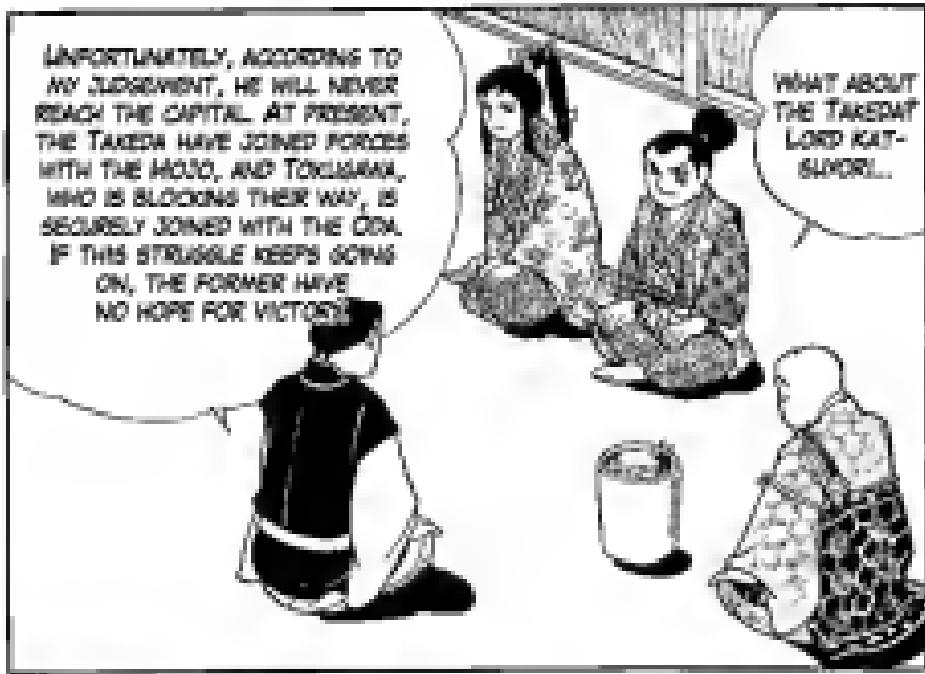
WITH LORD TAKEDA SHINGEN DEAD AND NOW PRIEST LESSEN KENSHIN DEAD, THE HOJO HAVE BEEN BLOCKED OFF BY TOKUGAWA IYASU, AND THE IKKO GALTISTS HAVE BEEN SUPPRESSED BY THE ODA.

UNFORTUNATELY, ACCORDING TO MY JUDGEMENT, HE WILL NEVER REACH THE CAPITAL AT PRESENT. THE TAKEDA HAVE JOINED FORCES WITH THE HOJO, AND TOKUGAWA, WHO IS BLOCKING THEIR WAY, IS SECURELY JOINED WITH THE ODA. IF THIS STRUGGLE KEEPS GOING ON, THE FORMER HAVE NO HOPE FOR VICTORY.

WHAT ABOUT THE TAKEDA? LORD KATSUMOTO...

NOT ONLY IN CHARACTER, BUT IN WEAPONS. THEY DO NOT HAVE NEARLY THE SAME NUMBER OF RIFLES.

SO, THEY ARE TOO DIFFERENT IN CHARACTER...



HMM... THE NUMBER OF RIFLES...



YES, IT APPEARS RIFLES HAVE BEGUN TO MAKE THEIR WAY INTO THIS LAND AS WELL. THEY WILL SHAPE THE WAY WAR IS DONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.



WHAT NUMBER OF RIFLES?...



THEY HAVE ALREADY CLASHED.



I SEE. SO THE ÔTA AND MORI ARE NATURALLY GOING TO CLASH.



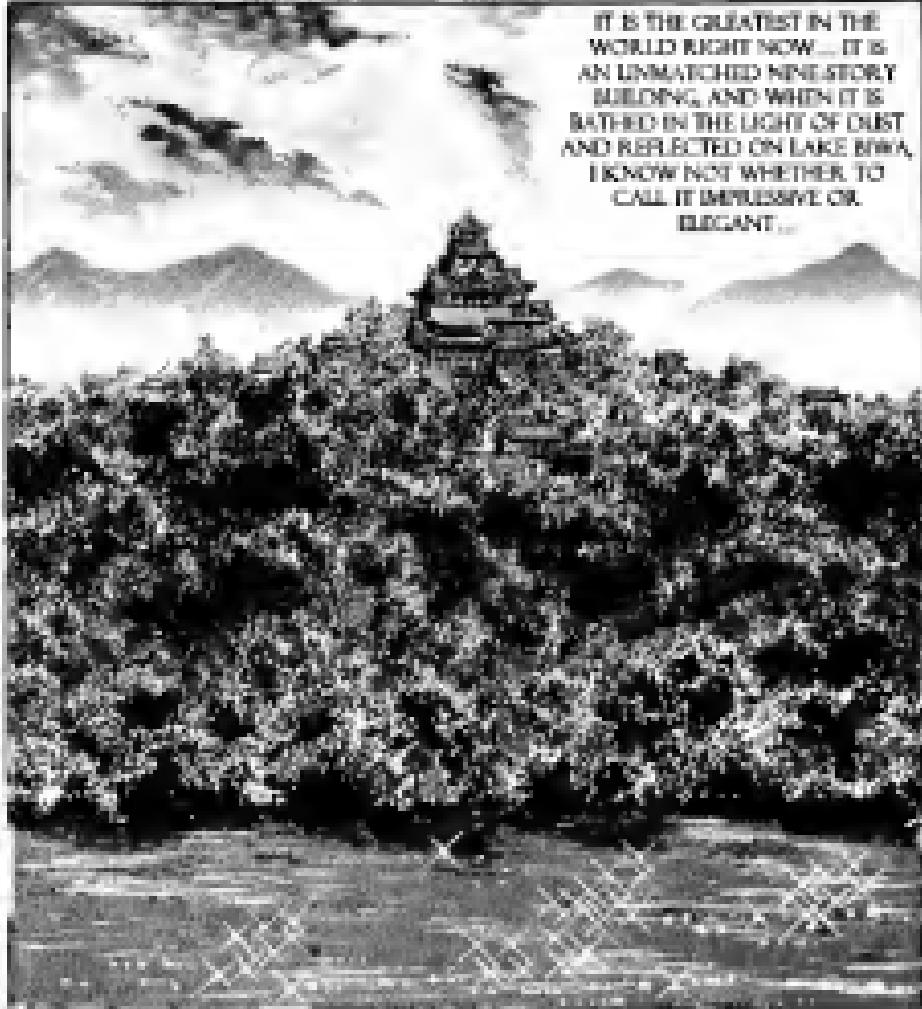
ONE OF ÔTA'S GENERALS WHO HAS Risen TO PROMINENCE, A FORMER FOOT SOLDIER NAMED HASHIBA CHIKUZEN, HAS ALREADY BEGUN THE INVASION FROM HAKATA INTO BISHU AND BOSHO.



YES. THE
CASTLE IN
AZUCHI IS
A GREAT
CASTLE.



I HEAR LORD
NOBUNAGA
IS BUILDING
A CASTLE IN
AZUCHI.



IT IS THE GREATEST IN THE
WORLD RIGHT NOW... IT IS
AN UNMATCHED NINE-STORY
BUILDING, AND WHEN IT IS
BATHED IN THE LIGHT OF DAY
AND REFLECTED ON LAKE BIWA,
I KNOW NOT WHETHER TO
CALL IT IMPRESSIVE OR
ELEGANT...



SO IT
SEEMS.



THEN
IT IS LIKELY
THAT LORD
ODA WILL
RULE THE
NATION.



THEN LET ME TELL YOU
A SECRET OF SECRETS.
ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO, A
GROUP OF SCHOLARS FROM
THE FIVE GREAT TEMPLES
WERE DEBATING OVER WHO
WOULD RULE THE NATION
OUT OF TWELVE POSSIBLE
CHOICES.



CONTINUE



YES. AND GRADUALLY,
THEY BEGAN DYING OF
NATURAL CAUSES OR
BEING DEFEATED IN
BATTLE. OF THE
TWELVE, ONLY HODO,
TAKEDA, TOKUGAWA,
ODA, MOTO, AKIYOSHI,
AND HASHIBA
REMAIN.



I SEE.
SO YOU
NARROWED
IT DOWN
TO THIRTEEN.

YES. THE REASON TWO OF ODA'S GENERALS ARE AMONG THEM IS BECAUSE WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT LORD ODA WILL NOT CONQUER THE NATION...



WHAT? ARE NOT AKECHI AND HASHIRA ODA'S GENERAL?



HIS OWN MOTHER WHO GAVE BIRTH TO HIM WENT AFTER HIS LIFE, AND HE WAS FORCED TO KILL HIS BROTHER. FOR THAT REASON, HE BECAME TOO TOUGH AND TOO COLD.



HE WAS RAISED IN SUCH A WAY THAT HE DOES NOT TRUST OTHERS.



WHAT? LORD ODA WILL NOT CONQUER THE NATION?



IF ANYONE BECOMES HUNTED BY THEIR OWN MOTHER, THEY WILL BECOME THE MOST HATED MAN OF THIS WORLD. THEY WILL BE FATED TO LOSE THEIR LIVES IN A REBELLION.





IF SUCH A REBELLION HAPPENS, AND LORD KOBUSHI-NASHI WAS DEFEATED, WE THOUGHT ABOUT WHO WOULD FIGHT OVER HIS DOMAIN... AND THESE TWO NAMES CAME TO THE FOREFRONT.



WE CONSIDERED EVERY POSSIBILITY, AND IN THE END ONLY THESE TWO REMAINED...



THIS WORLD IS WHERE HUMANS GATHER AND LIVE TOGETHER. THE GODS AND BUDDHAS WOULD NEVER ENTRUST THE PEOPLE TO A MIS-TRUSTFUL MAN. HE WILL BE FOILED PARTWAY.



DOES ANYONE THINK THAT LORD ODA WILL CONQUER THE NATION?



THIS IS A SECRET AMONG SECRET TO US SCHOLARS. THEY ARE HASHIMA, CHIKUZEN AND TOKUSHIMA, REYASS...

I DON'T
KNOW...

SO, HASHIBA AND
TOKUGAWA WILL
RISE AGAINST HIM
AND KILL HIM... IS
THAT WHAT YOU
PREDICT?

HMM...

IF THE GODS AND BUDDHAS
ABANDON A MAN, HE WILL
FALL OFF HIS HORSE OR
CHOKE ON A RICE CAKE ON
NEW YEAR'S. THAT IS THE
PROPHECY OF THE SCHOL-
ARS OF THE FIVE GREAT
TEMPLES.



SO FINALLY
THE NATION
WILL BE AT
PEACE.





YOU HAVE
TOLD ME
MANY GOOD
THINGS.



IN THE
NEXT
THREE
YEARS...



YES.

YOUNG LORD,
REMEMBER
THE ITINER-
ANT PRIEST'S
TALE WELL.

AND SO, HIGH PRIEST
KOSAI CONTINUED TO TEACH
MASAMUNE UNTIL HE LEFT THIS
WORLD AT THE AGE OF 82. THIS
WAS OVER FORTY YEARS, AND
THIS WAS EXTREMELY FOR-
TUNATE TO MASAMUNE.

MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

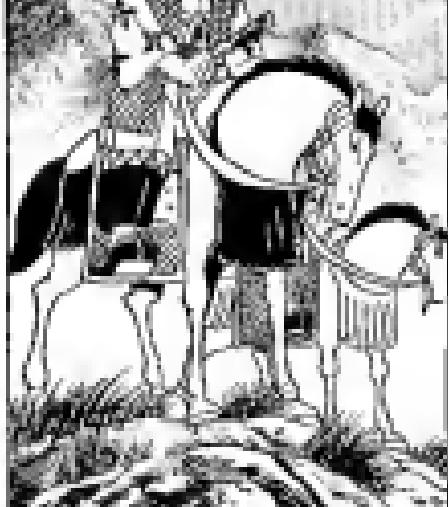
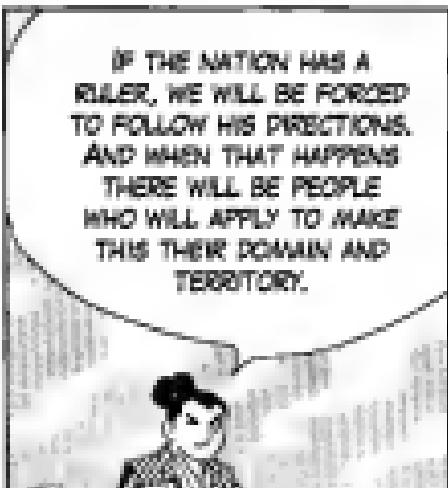
DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 7 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

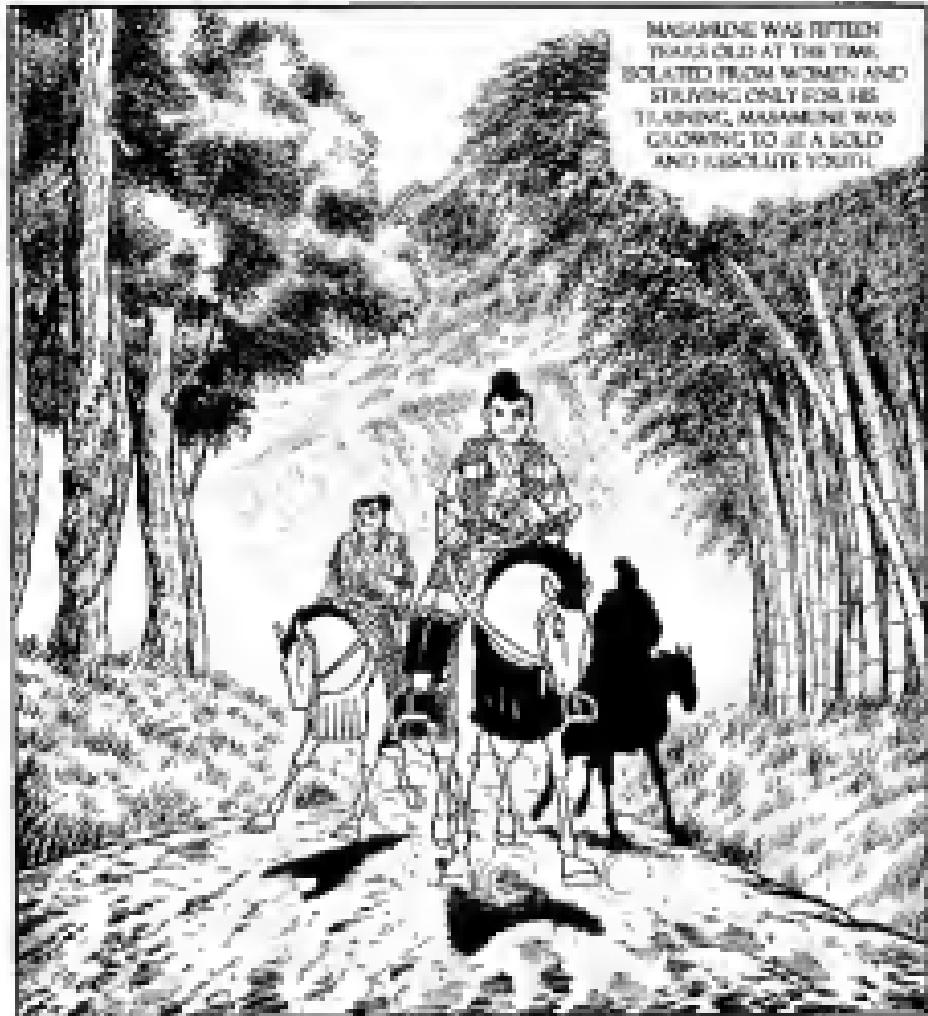
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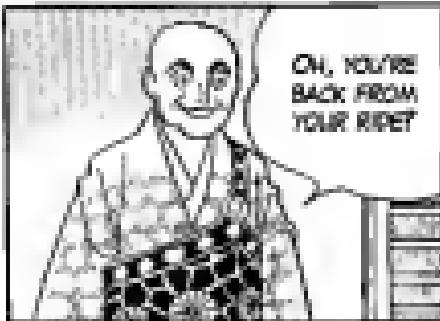
CHAPTER 8: THE DESIRE FOR THE VANGUARD

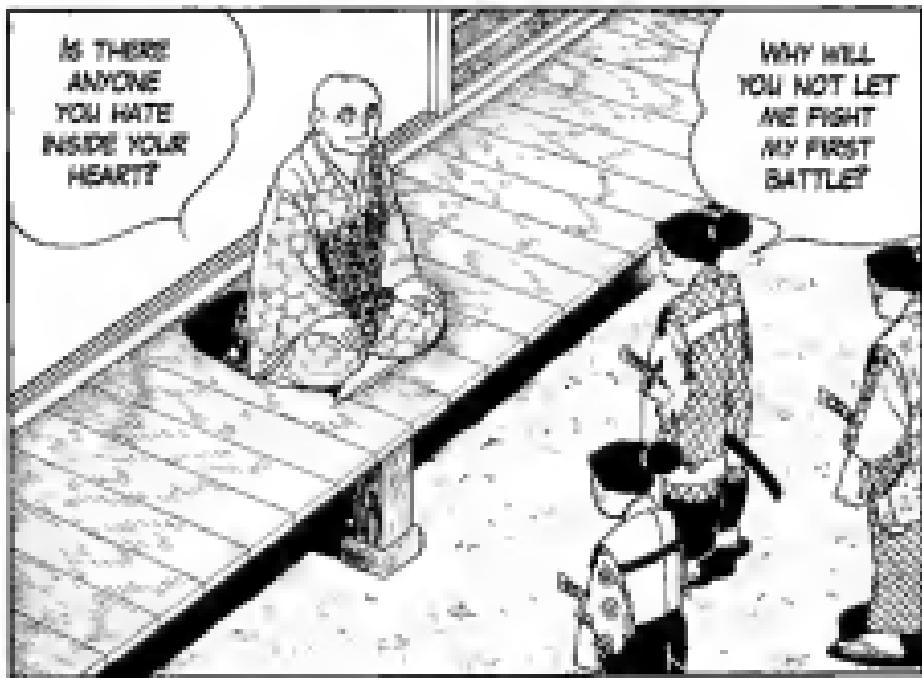
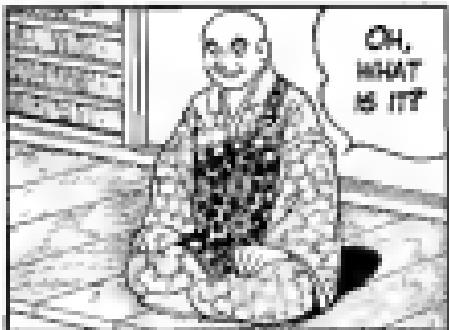












THAT IS NO DIFFERENT. YOU WILL ONLY BE DOING THE WORK OF THE ASURA. YOU WILL SAVE NO ONE.



BUT WHAT ABOUT HATRED FOR MY ENEMIES?





IF A CASTLE IS
FALLING, YOU MUST
LEAVE ONE ESCAPE
ROUTE. IF YOU
CANNOT DO THAT,
YOU CANNOT CALL
YOURSELF A
GENERAL.





I UNDERSTAND. BUT
IF I HAVE NO HATRED
IN MY HEART, CAN
I GO ON TO MY
FIRST BATTLE?



THAT MONK
ALWAYS SAYS THE
WEIRDEST THINGS!
HOW IS IT POS-
SIBLE TO FIGHT
WITHOUT HATING
YOUR ENEMY?

ON NEW YEARS OF
TENSHO YEAR 10 (1582),
MASAMUNE AND
MEGOMI WERE
WED. IT WAS THREE
YEARS AS HAD BEEN
PROMISED.



MASAMUNE WAS
SIXTEEN, AND
MEGOMI WAS
FIFTEEN. IT WAS
NOT UNCOMMON
AT THE TIME
TO BE MARRIED AT
THIS AGE.

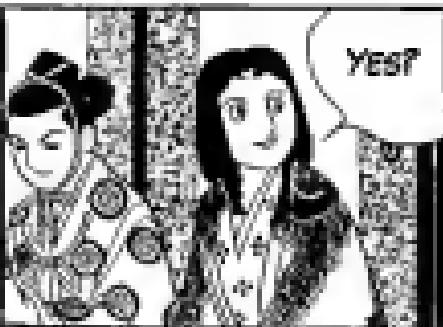
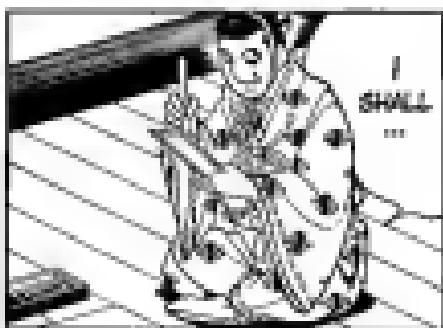




AND ON
JANUARY
2, THE
CUSTOM
ART
POETRY
ASSEMBLY
BEGAN.

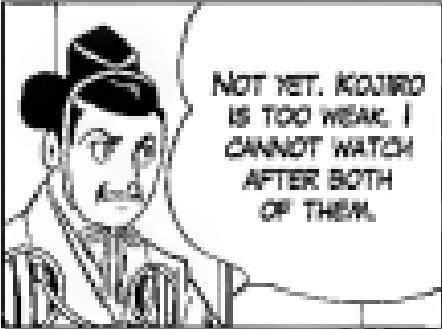
"SHALL WE
PICK YOUNG
GREENS IN
COMPETITION
TOMORROW?"

ALRIGHT.
I SHALL
WRITE THE
FIRST
VERSE.







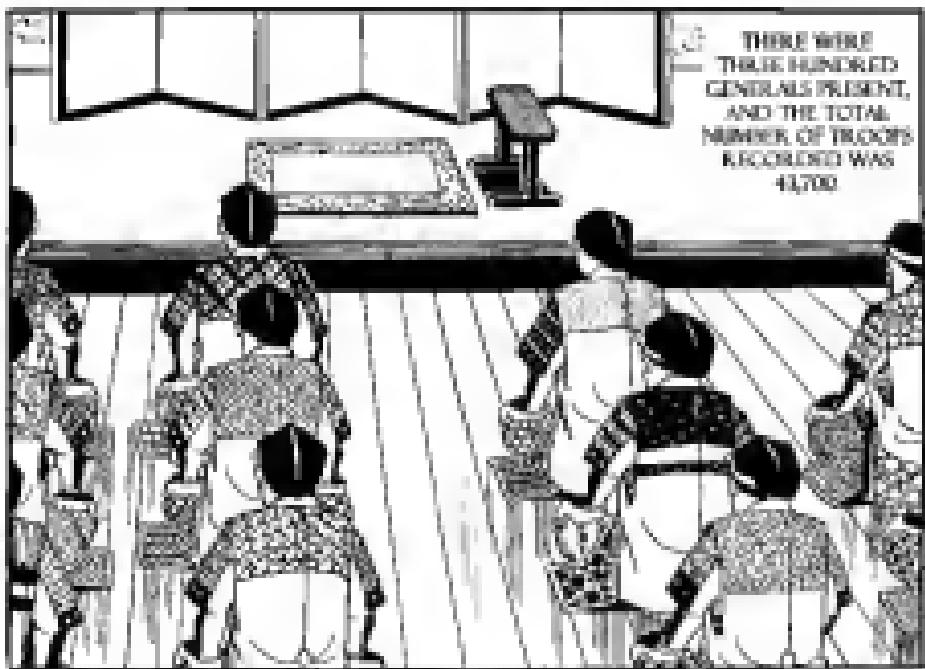


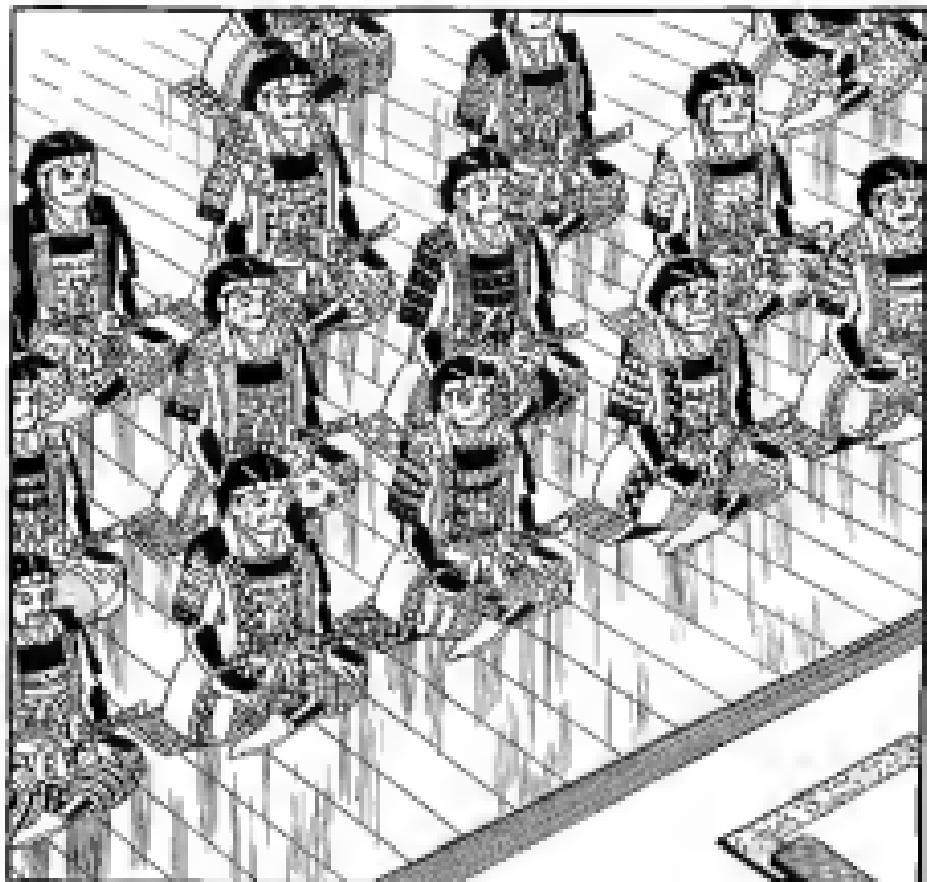
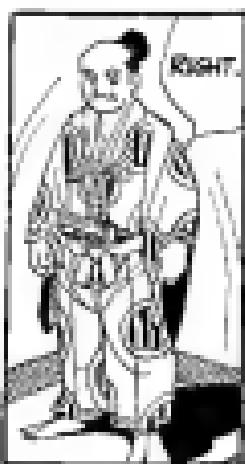
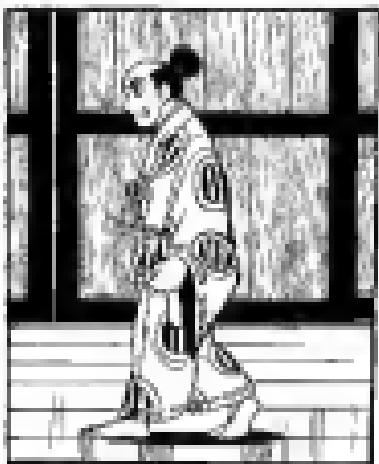


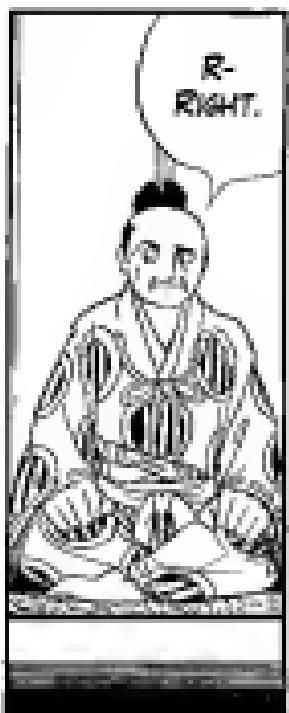
AND SO, ON
THE ELEVEN
TH, ALL THE
GENERAL'S
RECORDED
THEIR NAMES
AND TROOPS



THERE WERE
THREE HUNDRED
GENERAL'S
PRESENT,
AND THE TOTAL
NUMBER OF TROOPS
RECORDED WAS
43,700







MORONAGA, HISAYOSHI,
IEYASU, HAD MASAUMI
BORN BORN CLOSER TO
THEM. THERE IS NO TELLING
HOW THE AGE OF THE WAR-
RING STATES WOULD HAVE
CHANGED. AND NOW THE
ONE-EYED DRAGON HAD
STARTED ASCENDING
TOWARDS HEAVEN.



MASAMUNE DALE

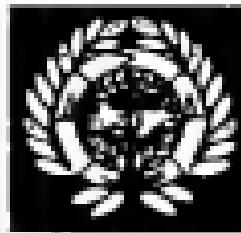
DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 8 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

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BOOK 2: OF WIND AND CLOUDS

風
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の巻
のまき

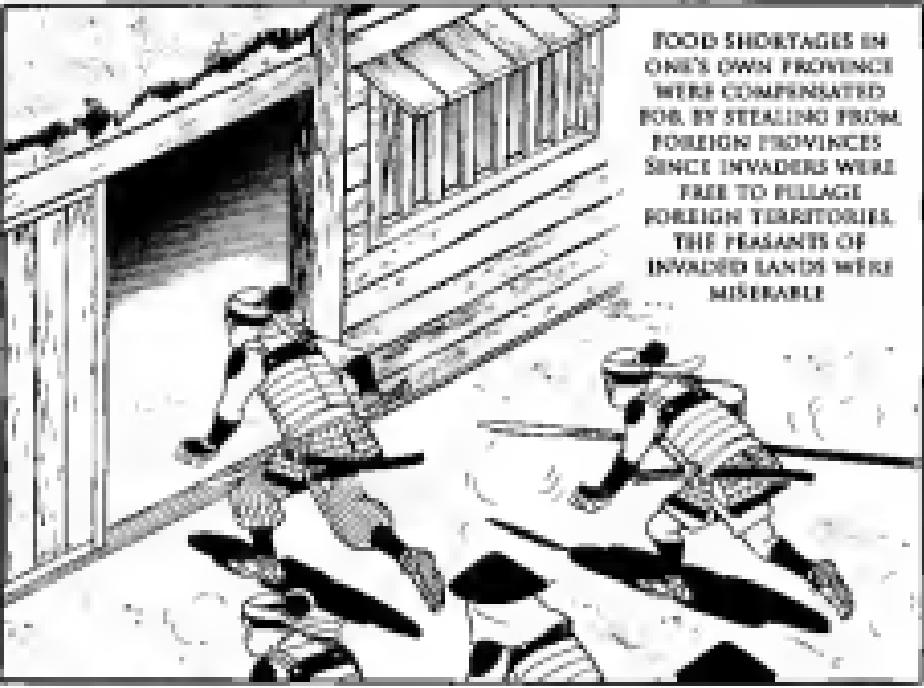
DATE FAMILY CREST



伊達家家紋

ONE OF THE
REASONS THE
FEUDAL LORDS
OF THE WARRING
STATES FOUGHT DAY
AND NIGHT WAS
TO RESOLVE FOOD
SHORTAGES.

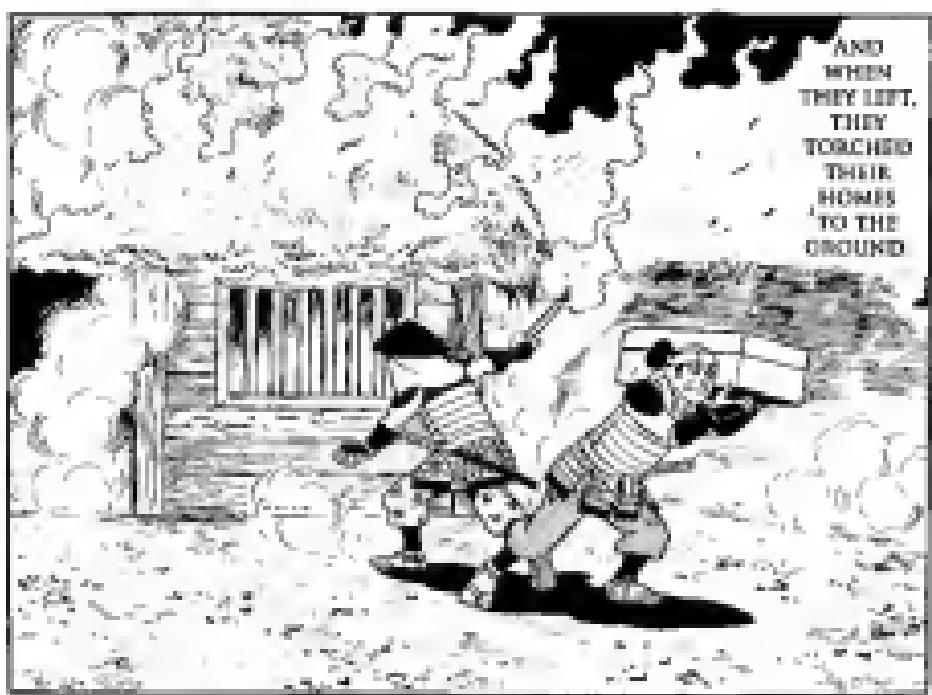




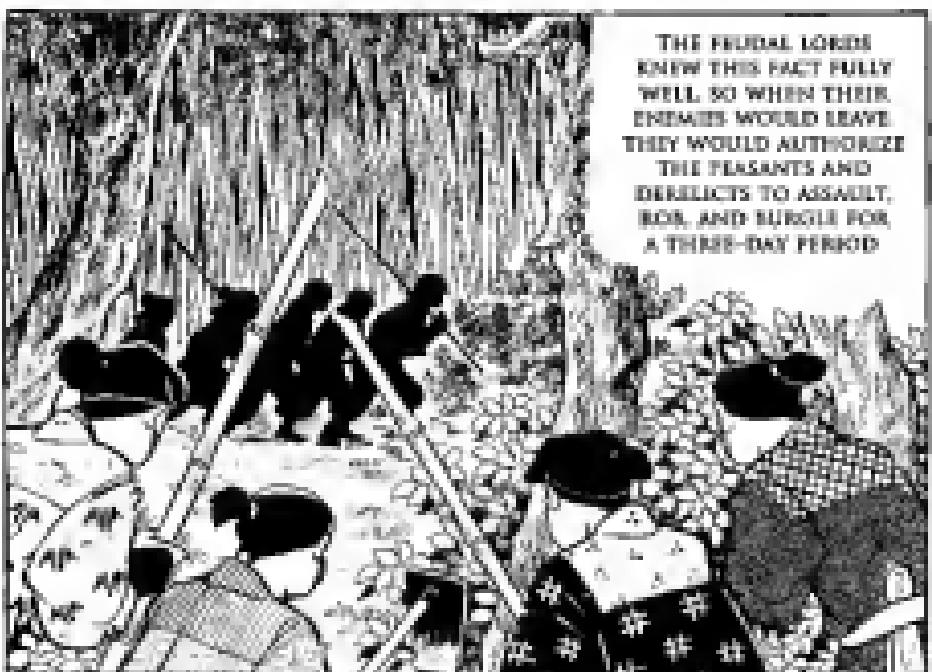
FOOD SHORTAGES IN
ONE'S OWN PROVINCE
WERE COMPENSATED
FOR BY STEALING FROM
FOREIGN PROVINCES
SINCE INVADERS WERE
FREE TO PILLAGE
FOREIGN TERRITORIES.
THE PEASANTS OF
INVADED LANDS WERE
MISERABLE



AND WHEN
THEY LEFT,
THEY
TORCHED
THEIR
HOMES
TO THE
GROUND



THE FEUDAL LORDS
KNEW THIS FACT FULLY
WELL SO WHEN THEIR
ENEMIES WOULD LEAVE
THEY WOULD AUTHORIZE
THE PEASANTS AND
DERELICTS TO ASSAULT,
ROB, AND BURGLAR FOR
A THREE-DAY PERIOD



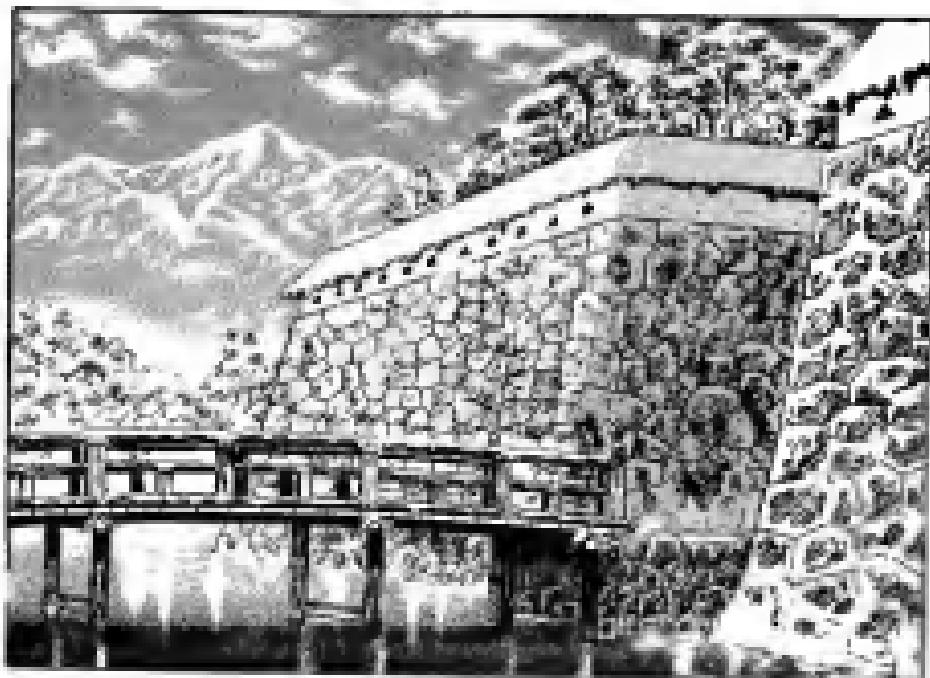


THERE
WERE TIMES
WHEN THE
RETURNS
WERE MORE
VIOLENT
THAN THE
INVASION.



AND THUS,
THE PEASANTS
WOULD GAIN
POSSESSION OF
WEAPONS AND
ARMOR, AND
WOULD SELL
THESE TO MAKE
A LIVING.

CHAPTER 9: ABACUS OF WAR



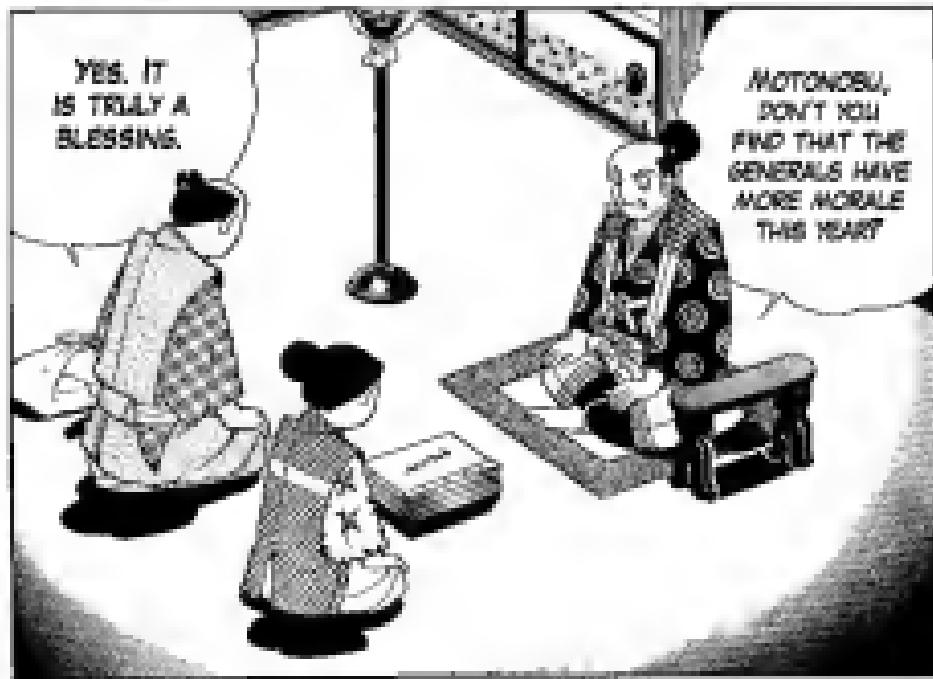
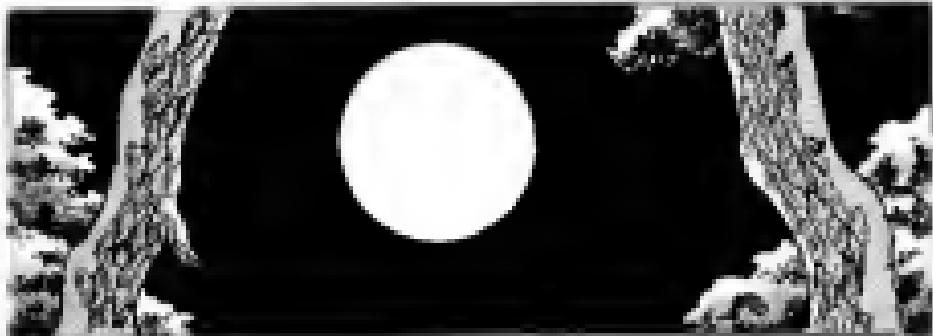
THIS YEAR, WE WILL
FIRST CROSS ITAYA
PASS AND ASSAULT
OMORI CASTLE. DOES
ANYONE HAVE ANY
OBJECTIONS?



GOOD. WE WILL
SALLY FORTH AT
THE END OF MARCH.
MAKE ALL NECESSARY
PREPARATIONS
BY THEN.

YES,
MY
LORD!

THIS ENDS
THE WAR
COUNCIL.





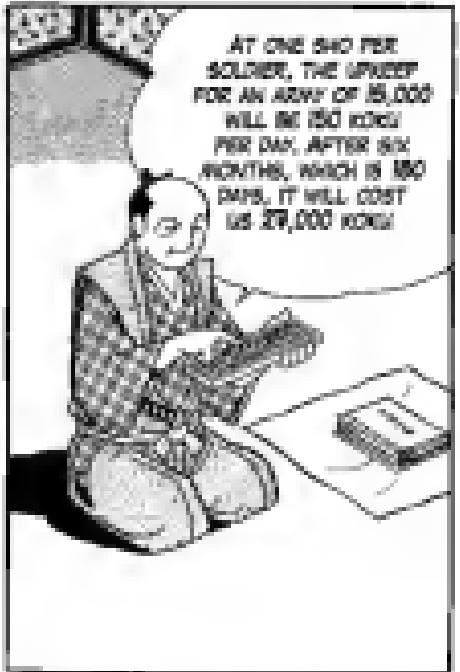
NO,
HE IS
RIGHT.



WE HAVE 48,700
SOLDIERS LISTED
IN THE REGISTRY.
WE SHOULD
AT LEAST
TAKE HALF
OF THEM.



OUR TOTAL YIELD FROM OUR
FIELD IS 200,000 KOKU, AND
IF WE TAKE HALF OF THAT AS
TRIBUTE, IT WILL BE 100,000
KOKU... AND IF WE ONLY HAVE
TO SPEND ONE THIRD OF THAT,
IT WILL BE FAR BETTER FOR
US FINANCIALLY...



AT ONE SHO PER
SOLDIER, THE QUOTEP
FOR AN ARMY OF 10,000
WILL BE 100 KOKU
PER DAY. AFTER SIX
MONTHS, WHICH IS 180
DAYS, IT WILL COST
US 37,000 KOKU



WITH AN
ABACUS, AS
YOU CAN
SEE, MY
LORD...



WHAT?
ANOTHER
HOW CAN
YOU SIMPLY
CALCULATE
MATTERS
OF WAR?

YES, I
AM WELL
AWARE OF
THAT.

THE LIVES OF
YANAGIWA MONOKO
AND KAKAMATA KAGE-
CHIKA HANG IN THE
BALANCE! THEY HAVE
REQUESTED URGENT
REINFORCEMENT!

S-
SILENCE!

DO YOU BELIEVE IT IS
RIGHT TO CALCULATE
THE LIVES OF MEN
ON AN ABACUS? YOU
FOOL! WHAT IF THE
ENEMY SENDS AN
ARMY GREATER THAN
TWENTY THOUSAND
MEN?

Y-YES,
MY LORD.

THE TACTICS OF
WAR ARE NOTHING
LIKE THE FINANCES
OF A PETTY
MERCHANT! DO
NOT TEACH THE
YOUNG LORD SUCH
FOOLISHNESS!





THE ENEMY WILL BE IGNORING THEIR OWN ABACUS. IF THE SONA SETS OUT WITH AN ARMY OF TWENTY THOUSAND, THEIR STRONGHOLD WILL BE VACANT.



WE CAN DELIVER A LETHAL BLOW IF THEY SEND ALL TWENTY THOUSAND, BUT IT WON'T BE THAT SIMPLE.

BUT THE SOKA ARE NOT THAT FOOLISH. THEY ARE LIKELY TO RELY ON THEIR ABACUS AND SEND TEN THOUSAND, AT BEST...

HMM...

WHAT? OUR DOMAIN'S FOOD SHORTAGES?

DO YOU CALCULATE ON YOUR ABACUS WITH THE SAME THING IN MIND, MOTORCYCLE?

YES, MY LORD. THE YOUNG LORD ASKED ME HOW GREAT OUR DOMAIN'S FOOD SHORTAGES WERE THIS YEAR.

YES, MY LORD. I TOLD HIM IT WAS 18,000 KOKU SO THE YOUNG LORD THOUGHT OF A WAY TO SPEND ONLY 30,000 KOKU ON THIS WAR. THIS WAY, WE CAN ALSO DEFEND OUR CASTLE.

BUT NOW THAT
THEY MENTION
IT, IT'S NOT
LIKELY THAT THE
ENEMY WILL
SEND TWENTY
THOUSAND
MEN...

THEY'RE
CALCULATING
PRECIOUS HUMAN
LIVES ON AN
ABACUS... I JUST
DON'T UNDER-
STAND IT!

NO, HOW
COULD I DO THAT
WITHIN THE YEAR
WHEN IT HAS
TAKEN YOU TEN
YEARS?

THEN ASAGAHIME,
YOU DO NOT INTEND
TO GET RID OF
THE SONYA BY THE
END OF THIS
YEAR, DO YOU?

W-WHAT?
YOUR
CALCULATIONS
AGAIN?

HOWEVER, BY MY
CALCULATIONS,
WE SHOULD BE
FINISHED WITH
THEM WITHIN
THREE TO FOUR
YEARS.

I FEAR THAT THE RULER OF THIS NATION WILL BE DETERMINED WITHIN TEN YEARS. WE MUST SECURE OUR OWN LANDS BEFORE THEN. IF WE DO NOT WISH TO BECOME HIS FIRST FLAG-BEARERS.

W-WHATT
THE ENTIRE
LAND OF
OULU

YES. ACCORDING TO THE ABACUS OF ANASAMUNE, IF WE DO NOT TAKE THE ENTIRE LAND OF OULU WITHIN TEN YEARS, WE WILL NEVER HAVE THE CHANCE EVER AGAIN.

I WOULD MUCH RATHER HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE VANGUARD.

I-I SEE. SO YOU REQUESTED THIS BE YOUR FIRST BATTLE BECAUSE OF YOUR CALCULATIONS.

I HAD PLANNED ON ATTACKING THE ASHINA OF AZU.

AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN THE VANGUARD?

YES, IT WAS LORD MORIJI THAT REVIVED THE ASHINA CLAN, BUT HE PASSED AWAY A YEAR AGO, AND WAS SUCCEEDED BY THE TWO-YEAR-OLD KANEKAWARI.

I BELIEVE THIS TO BE THE PERFECT CHANCE TO ATTACK THEM.

WHAT'S THE ASHINA OF ASU?

WHEN I THOUGHT IT OVER, I REALIZED I AM ONLY CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO ROUSE THE MEN.

SO WHY DID YOU NOT COMPLAIN WHEN I RESEARCHED YOU FROM THE VANQUISH?

Y-YOU CALCULATED THAT AS WELL?

THUS I WILL USE MY FIRST BATTLE TO LEARN HOW TO USE MY MEN. THEREFORE, I HAVE PUT MY PLAN TO ATTACK THE ASHINA ON HOLD FOR THREE YEARS.



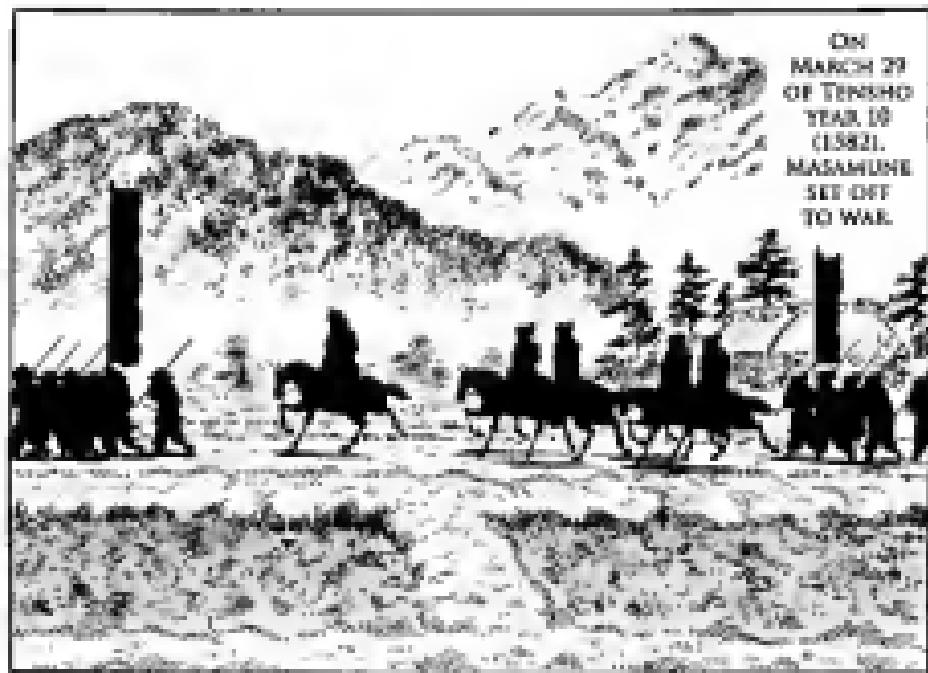


MASAMUNE 連続政治小説 DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 9 BY
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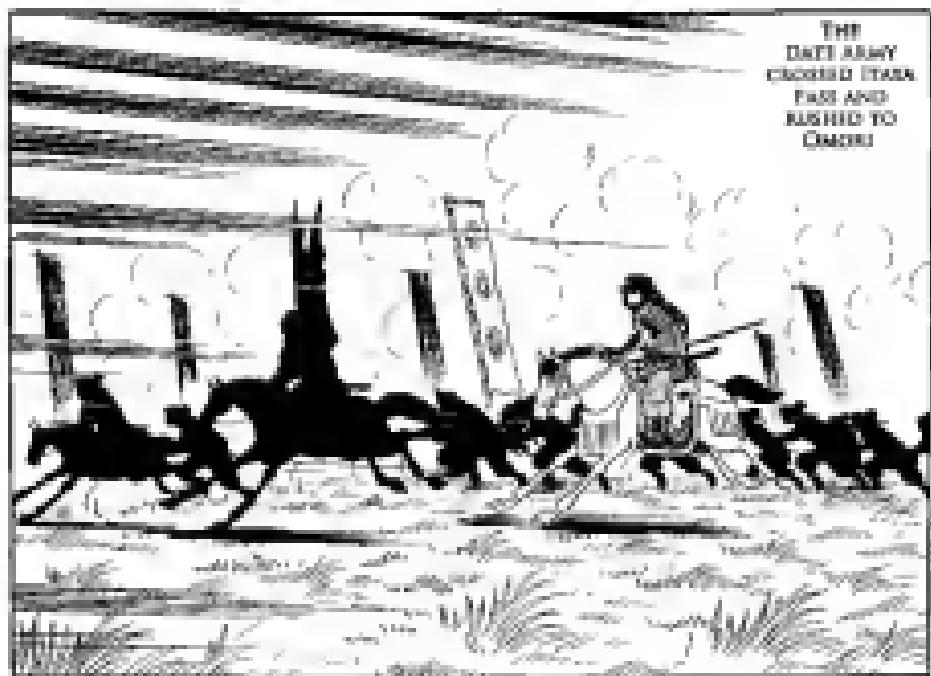
CHAPTER 10: FIRST BATTLE



THEIR
OBJECTIVE WAS
TO DESTROY
THE ENEMY
THAT HAD
INVaded IOWA
DISTRICT



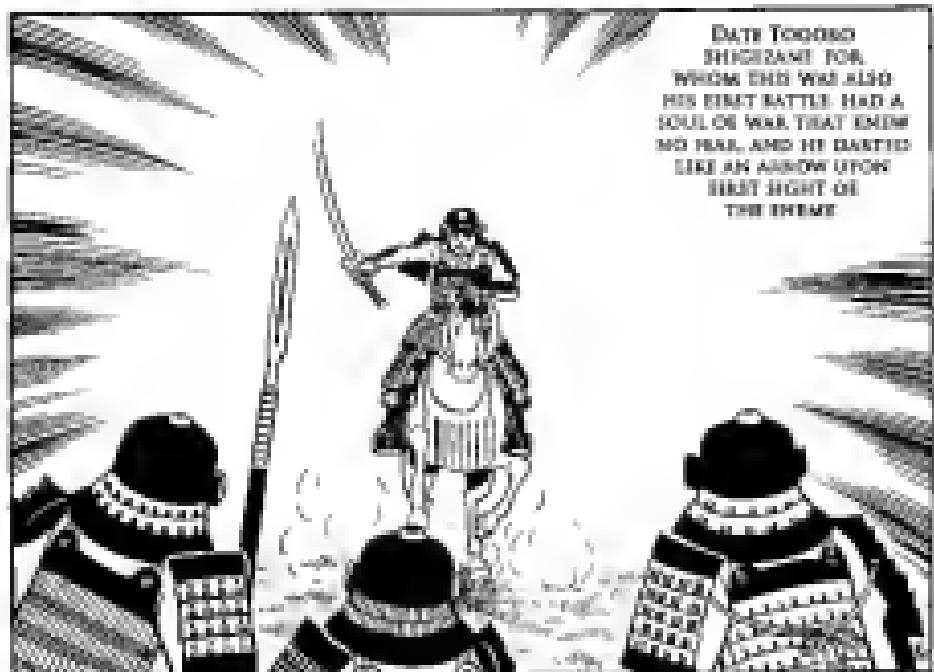
THE
DATH ARMY
CROSSED ITABA
PASS AND
RUSHED TO
OMARU

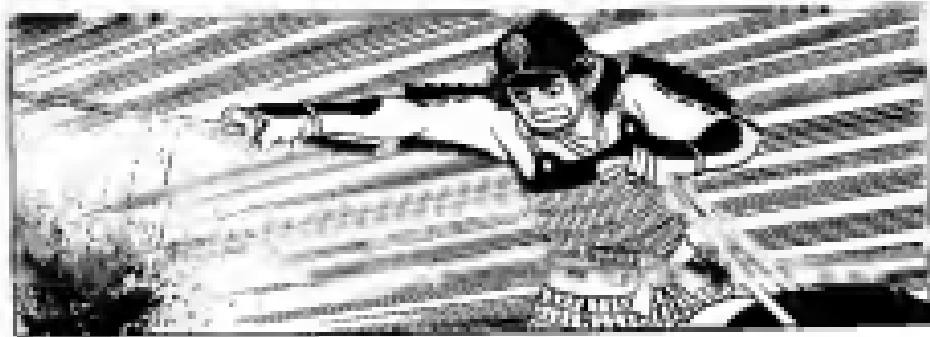
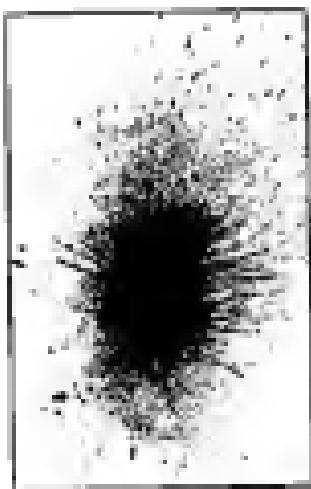


AMIDST
THE MARCHING
ARMY OF
THREE THOUSAND
HE PERFORMED IN AN
OUTSTANDING
MANNER.



DATE TOGOHO
SPRANG FOR
WHOM THIS WIZ ALSO
HIS FIRST BATTLE HAD A
SOUL OF WAR THAT KNEW
NO FEAR AND HE DARTED
LIKE AN ARROW UPON
THE SIGHT OF
THE ENEMY.



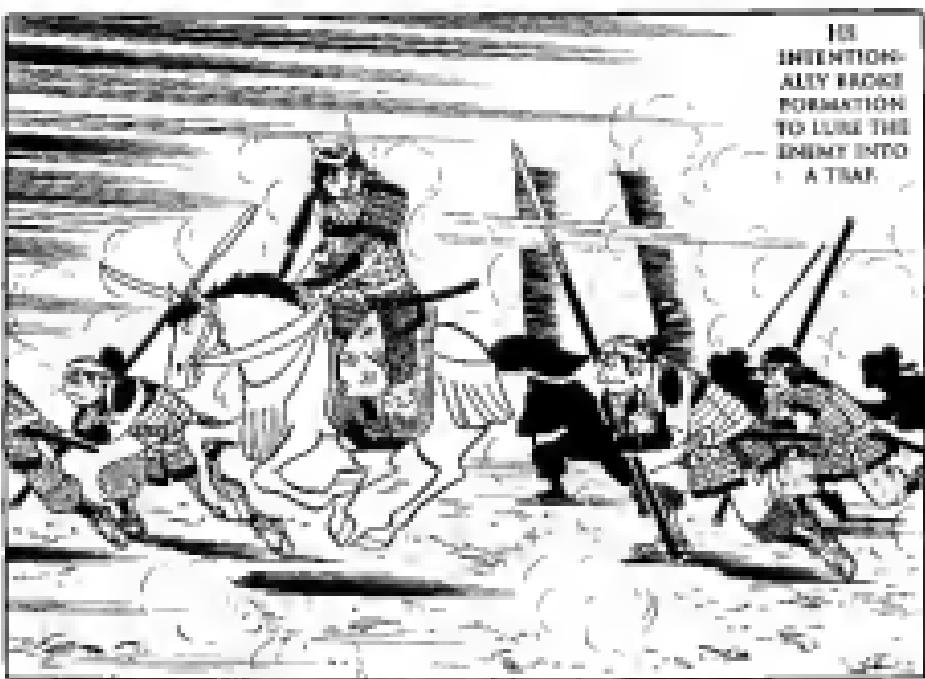


KOJURO
ASSAULTED
WITH EXTREME
CAUTION,
AND ADDRESSED
THEIR LEAD A
TWO-FOLD
STRATEGY.



IN STARK
CONTRAST
TO SHIGE-
ZANE WAS
KATARURA
KOJURO.

HE
INTENTION-
ALLY BROKE
FORMATION
TO LURE THE
ENEMY INTO
A TRAP.



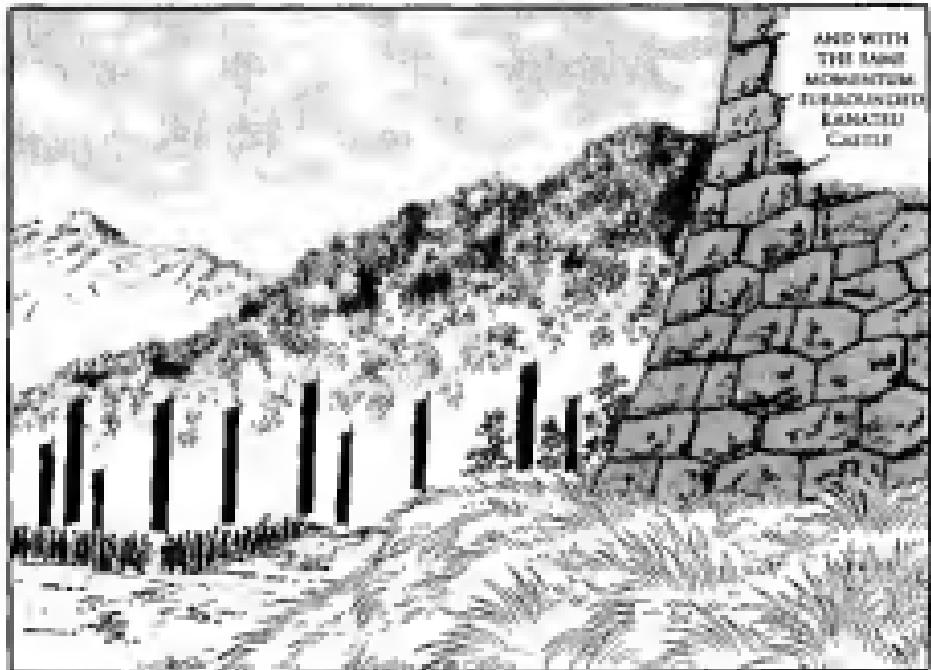


THEY
SURROUNDED
THE ENEMY
AND SLAYED
THEM. HE WAS
LITERALLY AN
ASURA.

THE
ENEMY ARMY
BROUGHT
DOWN
OMORI
IN THE
WING OF
AN EYE

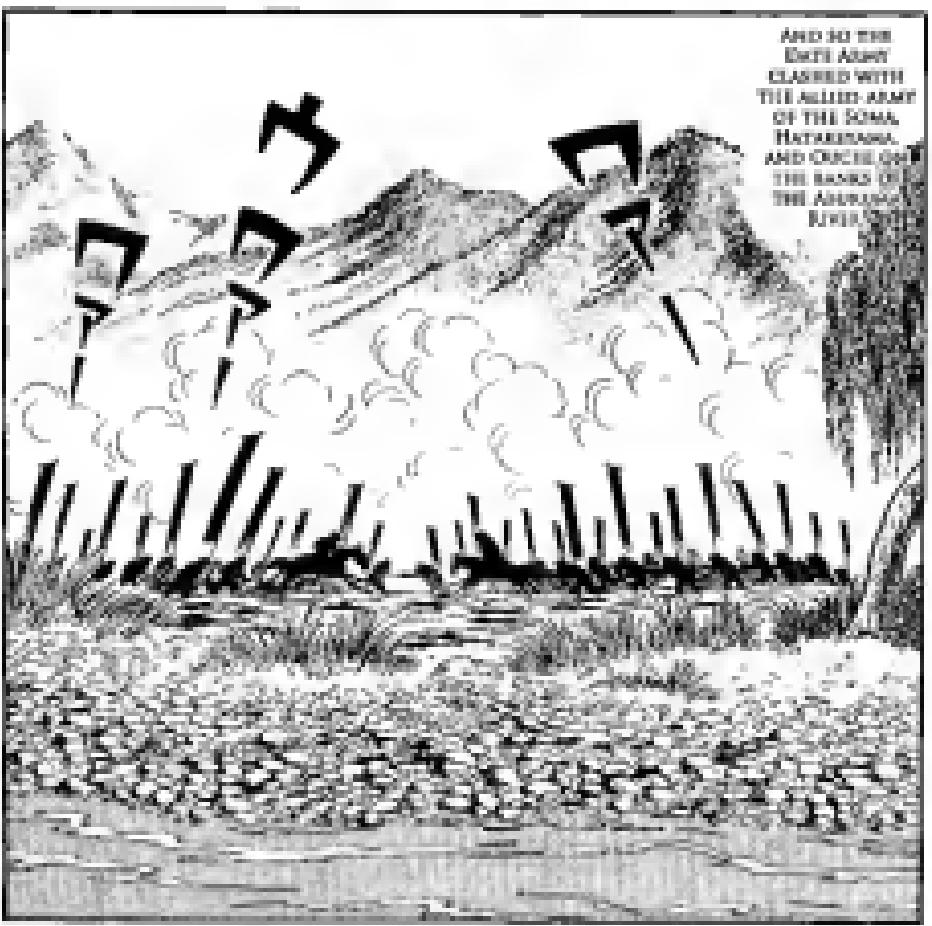


AND WITH
THE SAME
MOMENTUM
DEFEATED
KAMAZU
CASTLE

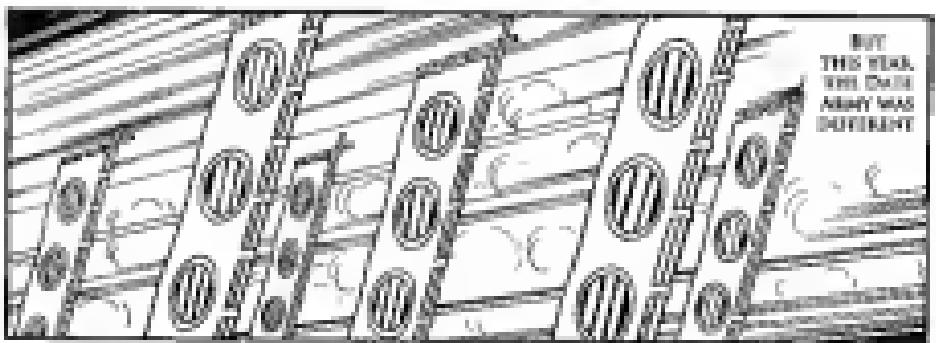


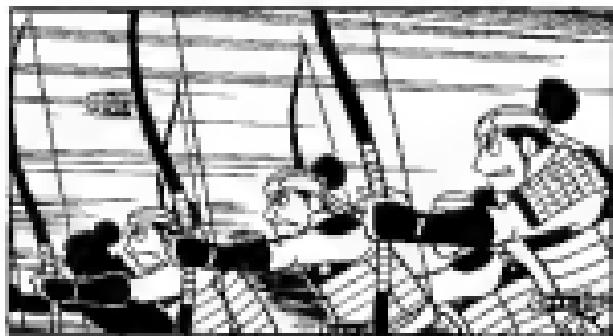


KANAYAMA
JUNSI, LORD OF
KANAYAMA CASTLE,
REQUESTED REIN-
FORCEMENTS
FROM THE SÔMA,
MATSUMOTO, AND OUCHI.



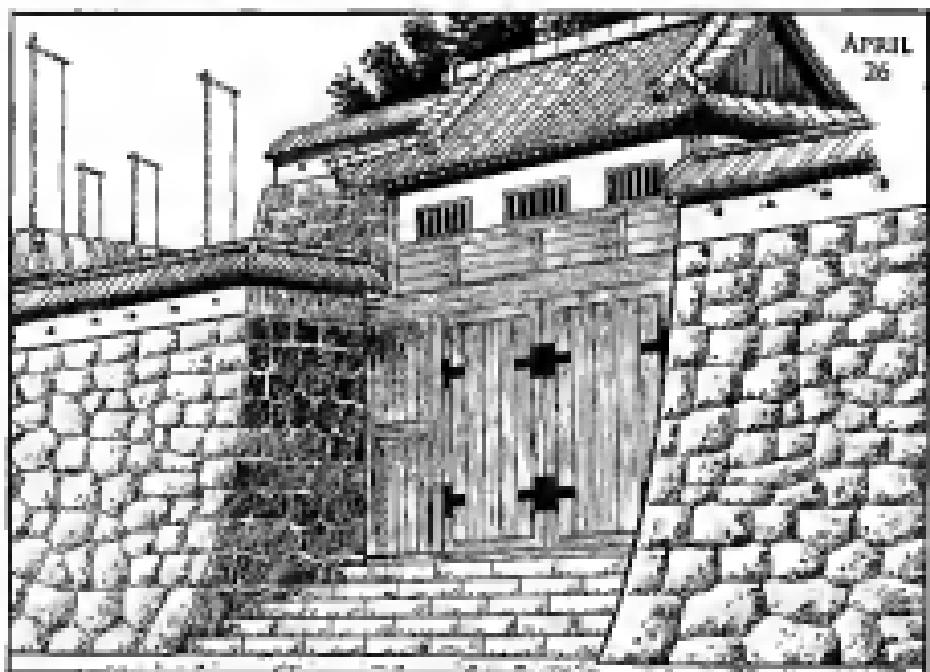
AND SO THE
EASTERN ARMY
CLASHED WITH
THE ALLIED ARMY
OF THE SÔMA,
MATSUMOTO,
AND OUCHI ON
THE BANKS OF
THE ANBUKA
RIVER.







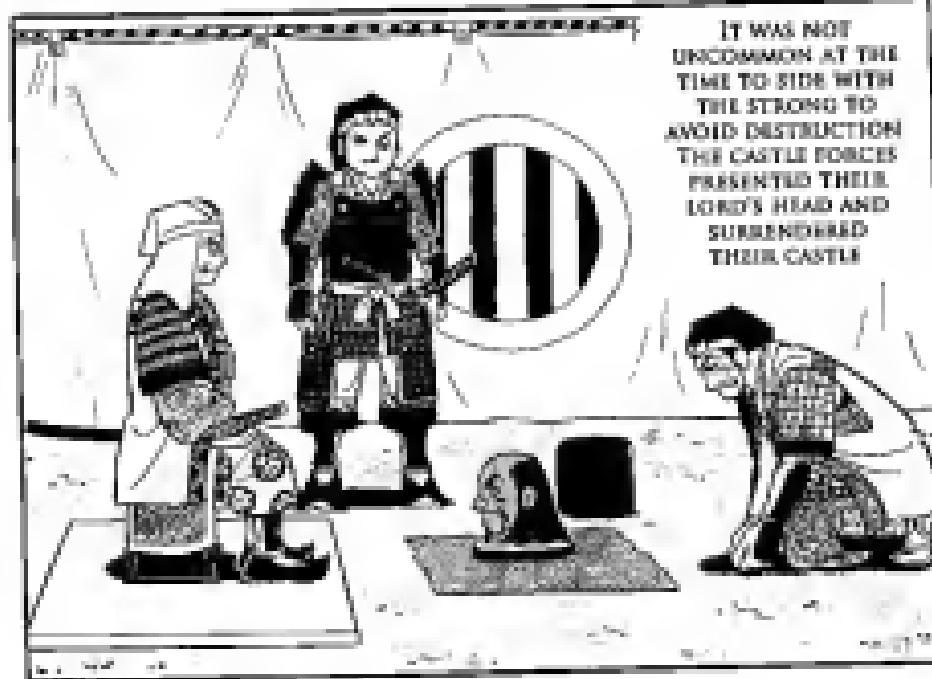
THE ARMED
ARMY OF
THE SOMA,
HATAGAYA,
AND OUCHI
REGIMENT
RETREATING



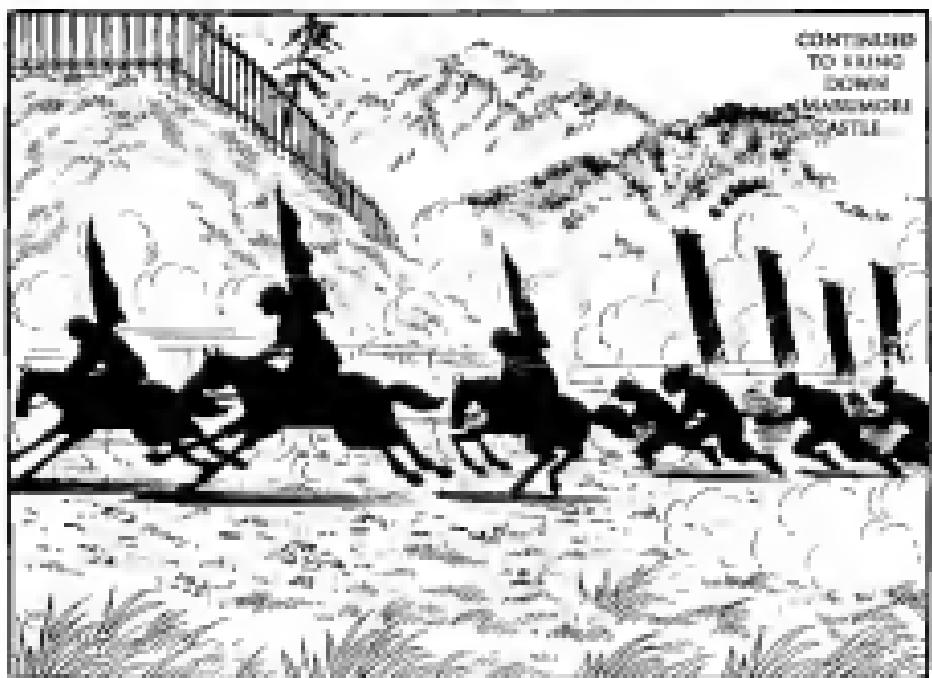
APRIL
26



ASAHIJINA
JUMI, LORD
OF KANATSU
CASTLE, WAS
SLAIN IN A
REBELLION
OF THE
CASTLE
FORCES



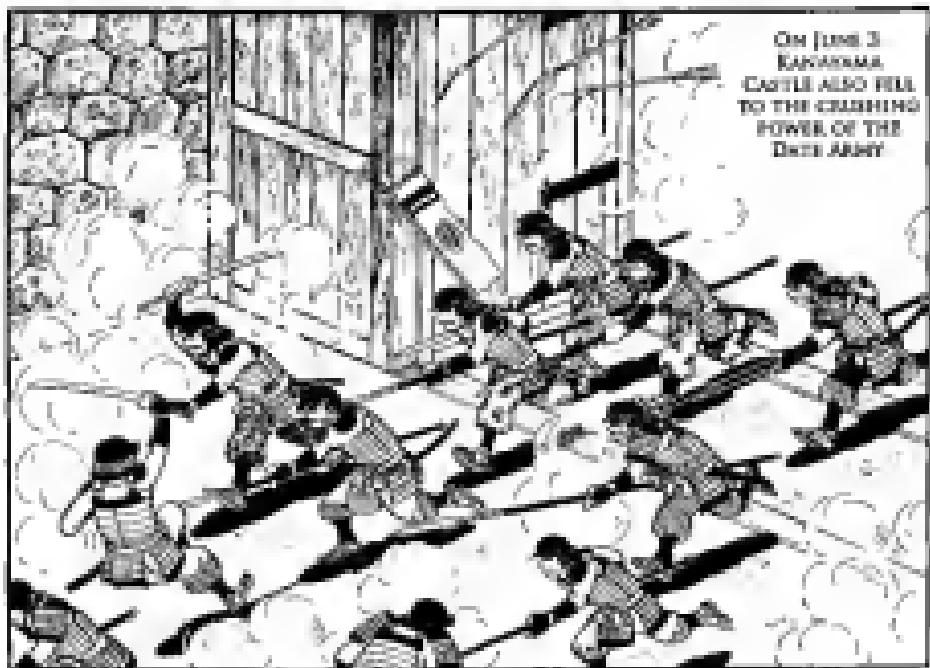
IT WAS NOT
UNCOMMON AT THE
TIME TO SIDE WITH
THE STRONG TO
AVOID DESTRUCTION.
THE CASTLE FORCES
PRESENTED THEIR
LORD'S HEAD AND
SURRENDERED
THEIR CASTLE.



AND WITH
BREAKNECK
SPEED THEY
ASSAULTED
KANAYAMA
CASTLE



ON JUNE 3
KANAYAMA
CASTLE ALSO FELL
TO THE CRUSHING
POWER OF THE
DATE ARMY



THE MAINE HAD DRIVEN OUT THE INVADERS OF IGO DISTRICT BY THE BEGINNING OF JUNE, WHEN HE HAD CALCULATED THAT THEY WOULD BE DRIVEN OUT BY THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER.







I THINK IT
WISE TO
ABORT THIS
WAR ALL
BECAUSE
IT IS
JANE.



BUT
JANE
HAS
BARELY
EVEN
BEGUN!



I DO
NOT
THINK
SO.



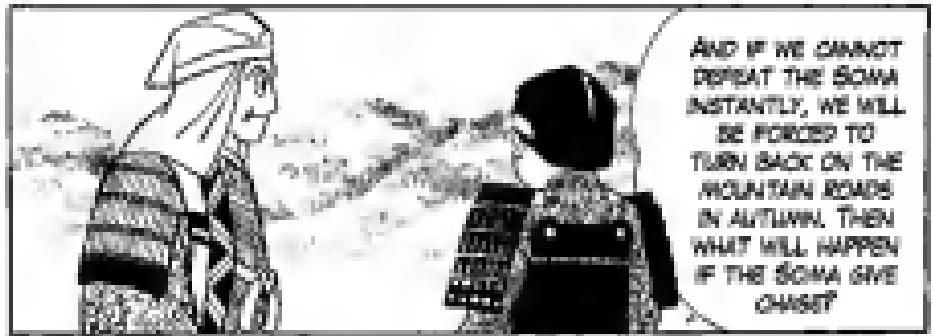
RIDICULOUS! WAR
IS ALWAYS DECIDED BY
YOUR MOMENTUM! THIS
IS OUR PERFECT CHANCE
TO CROSS THE MOUNTAINS,
INVADE THE
SIGMA'S DOMAIN, AND
DELIVER A SHOCK TO
MORTANE! DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND?



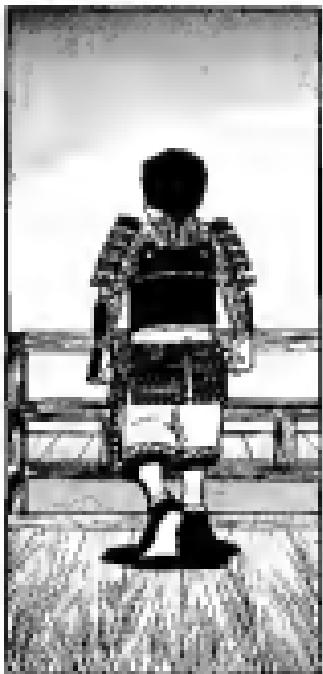


THE PEASANTS HAVE JUST COMPLETED THEIR RICE PLANTING, AND WILL BE GROWING THEM THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THIS YEAR. I DO NOT FEEL RIGHT ABOUT HARMING THE PEASANTS ANY FURTHER.









MEANWHILE, THERE WAS A TERRIBLE INCIDENT IN THE CENTER. ODA NOBUHARU, WHO HAD ALMOST GRASPED THE WHOLE NATION, WAS ASSASSINATED BY ANBO MITSUHIRO IN HONNO TEMPLE, AND THE ENTIRE LAND AROUND KYOTO WAS IN BITTER CHAOS. HIGH PRIEST KOSAI'S PROPHETIC THAT THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER WAVE THAT WOULD SWEEP THE NATION HAD HIT THE MARK.

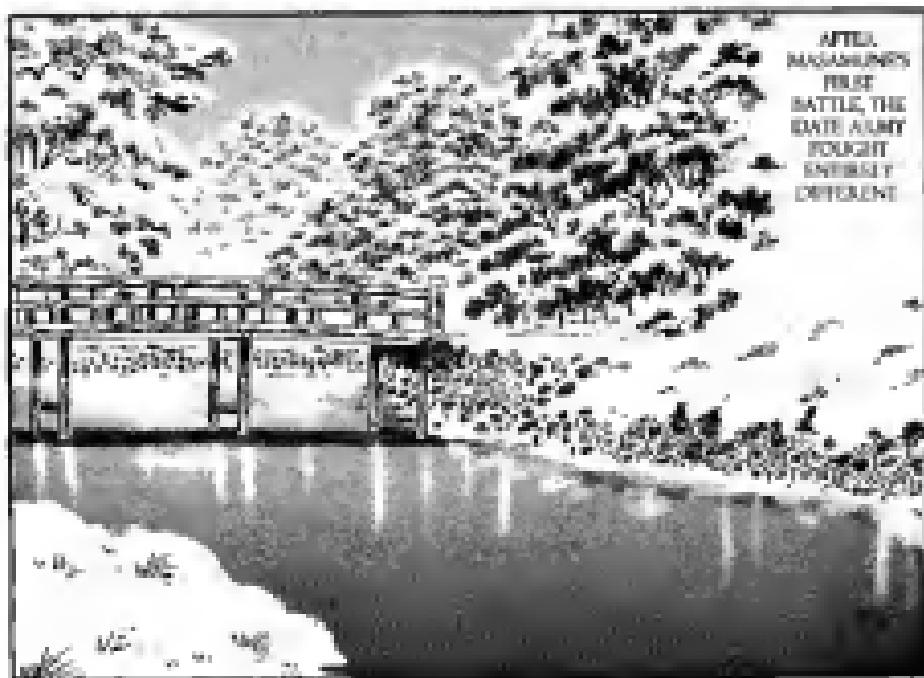


MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 10 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
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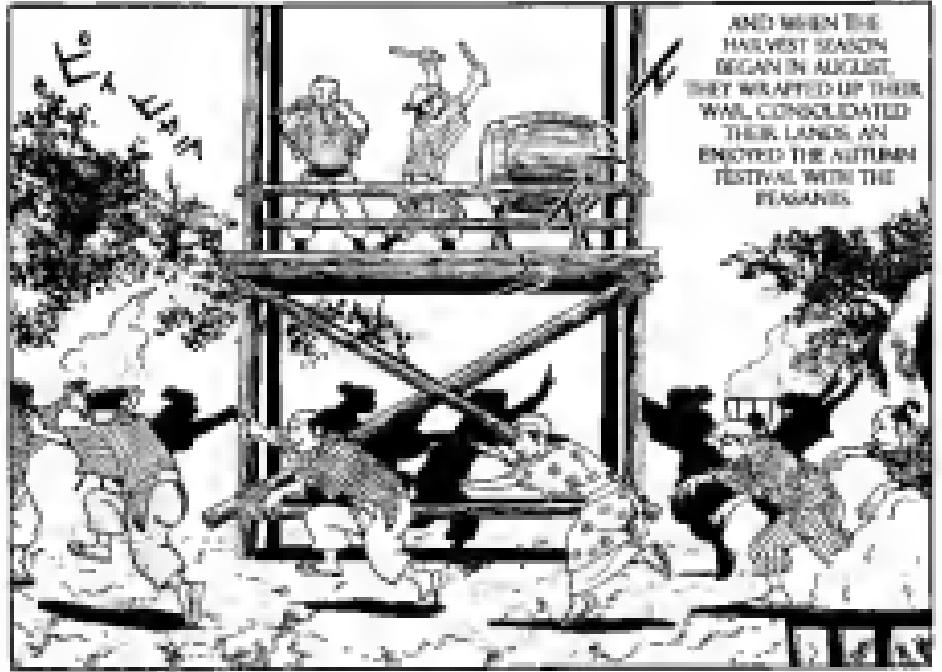
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CHAPTER 11: INHERITANCE





FROM
THE TIME
THE SNOW
MELTED UNTIL
JULY, THEY
FOUGHT WITH
LIGHTNING
SPEED.



YES, MY LORD.
THE FESTIVALS
ARE BECOMING
GREATER EVERY
YEAR.

THE
FLUTES AND
DRUMS SURE
ARE LIVELY
TONIGHT.



I HEAR THAT
PEOPLE HAVE
STARTED
USING "DATE"
TO REFER TO
SUCH GAL-
LANTRY.



EVER SINCE
THE YOUNG LORD
SUGGESTED WE USE
SEVEN-TENTHS OF
OUR TREASURE FOR
PURCHASED REPS.,
AND THE OTHER
THREE-TENTHS FOR
THE PEASANTS'
CEREMONIES AND
FESTIVALS...



STILL, I HAD NO
IDEA THAT FIGHTING
HALF OF THE YEAR
WOULD RAISE THE
BENEFITS OF WAR
SO MUCH.



EXACTLY.



THE PEOPLE
ARE PROSPERING
NOW THAT WE
ARE PROTECTING
THEIR FIELDS
FROM THE
FIRE OF
WAR.



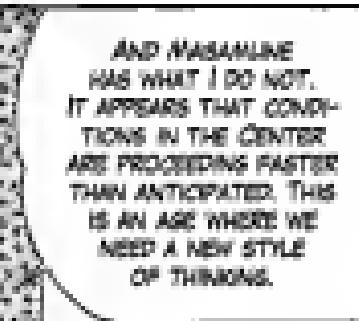
THE DATES
HAVE NOT LOST
A BATTLE SINCE
MASAHUNE'S FIRST
BATTLE. I CAN
ENTRUST HIM WITH
THE INHERITANCE.



WHAT?
TO THE
YOUNG
LORD?



MOTONOSU,
I AM THINKING
OF PASSING
MY INHER-
ITAGE ON
TO MASAHUNE.



AND MASAHUNE
HAS WHAT I DO NOT.
IT APPEARS THAT CONDI-
TIONS IN THE CENTER
ARE PROCEEDING FASTER
THAN ANTICIPATED. THIS
IS AN AGE WHERE WE
NEED A NEW STYLE
OF THINKING.





THIS IS PROOF THAT
OHN HAS RECOGNIZED
MASAMUNE'S POWER
AND HAS BEGIN TO
GREELY CHANGE.
NOW I WANT TO SEND
MASAMUNE TO THE
FOREFRONT.



BUT WILL
LADY
MASAMU
ACCEPT
THIS?



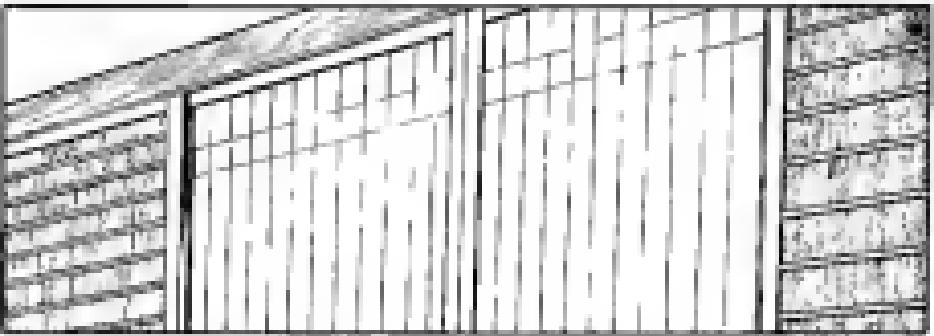
THEN EVEN MORE OF THE HESITANT
WILL ALIY THEMSELVES WITH US,
AND I WILL ACCEPT THEM. THIS WILL
HASTEN MASAMUNE'S TEN-YEAR
PLAN. DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS
SUITABLE FOR MY LAST WORK?



THEN IT
IS WELL
BY ME.



I SHALL
TALK WITH
HER ABOUT
THIS.



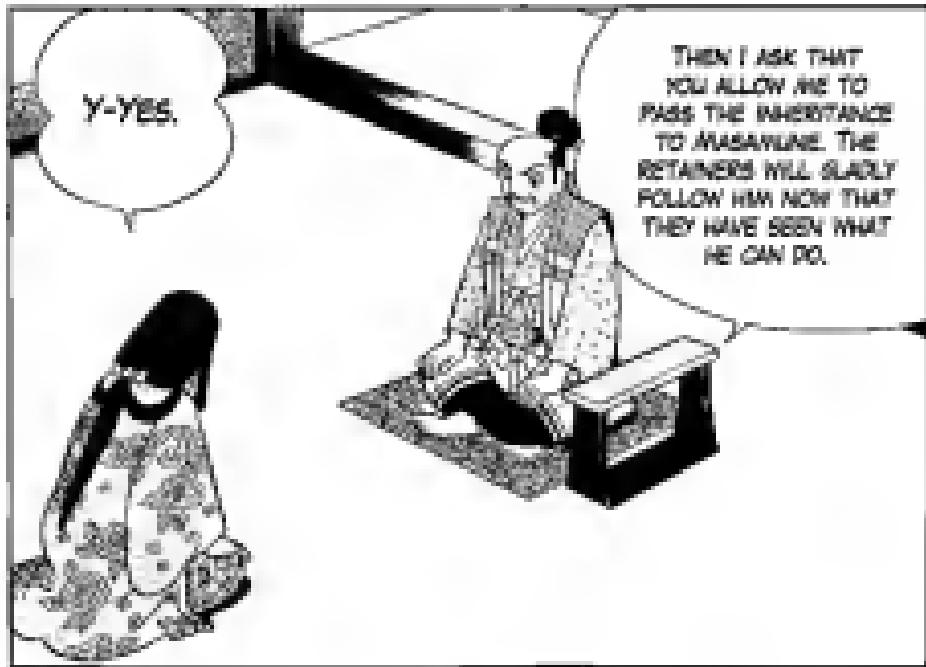
IS THERE
ANY REASON
IT WOULD
DIVIDE IN
TWO?

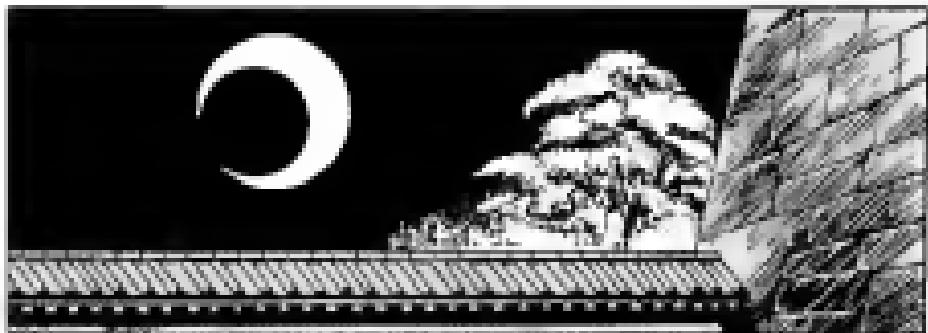
BUT IF THE
DATE CLAN
WERE TO
DIVIDE IN TWO
AGAIN...

N-HOG,
I GUESS
NOT...

THEN I ASK THAT
YOU ALLOW ME TO
PASS THE INHERITANCE
TO MASAMUNE. THE
RETAINERS WILL GLADLY
FOLLOW HIM NOW THAT
THEY HAVE SEEN WHAT
HE CAN DO.

Y-YES.









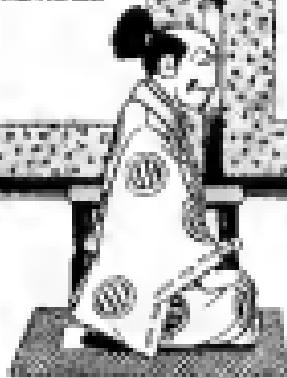
ON
OCTOBER 1,
TENSHO YEAR,
12 (1584),
MASAMUNE
BECAME
LORD OF THE
DATE CLAN AT
THE AGE OF
EIGHTEEN.



UPON
HEARING
THIS, GUESTS
CAME TO
YONEZAWA
CASTLE ONE
AFTER AN-
OTHER TO
CELEBRATE
HIS INHER-
ITANCE.

THE GOOD-
HEARTED
TERUMUNE WAS
HONORED THAT
EVERYONE HAD
RECOGNIZED HIS
SON'S POTENTIAL
AND ACQUIRED
THIS PRIZE.

THEY
FIRST VISITED
HIS FATHER,
TERUMUNE AND
PRAISED THEIR
NEW LORD
MASAHIDE.



THE FACT THAT
THERE ARE SO MANY
CELEBRATORY GUESTS
MEANS THAT THERE ARE
MANY WHO RECOGNIZE
YOU. I AM SURE THE
LORD IS VERY
PLEASER.

MOTONOBU, I
HEAR MY FATHER
IS PROUDLY
CONFERRING
SHOOTS AND
HORSES TO THE
CELEBRATORY
GUESTS.





AS HE HAD DECLARED,
MASAMUNE
DUMBOUNDED
EACH OF THE
GUESTS WITH HIS
CROSS-
GRANDEUR.

YES.
IT IS A
PLEASURE.

I AM OGOSHI
AKIMITSU, CHEF
RETAINER OF THE
TANAKA CLAN. I HAVE
COME TO CONGRATU-
LATE YOU ON YOUR
INHERITANCE.

HMM...?

BY THE WAY,
MEISHIYE
HAS STILL NOT
CONCLUDED.



A MARE THAT
CANNOT CONCERN
SERVES NO PUR-
POSE, NO MATTER
HOW BEAUTIFUL IT
IS. FIND ME A RE-
PLACEMENT MARE,
ONE THAT CAN
CONCERN.



YES, IT IS A
PLEASURE.



I AM
HANAMURA
SHIZUEN, CHIEF
RETAINER OF
THE MOGAMI
CLAN.



YES...



I HEAR
THAT THERE IS
STRIFE AMONG
THE MOGAMI
FAMILY.

Y-YES,
MY LORD.



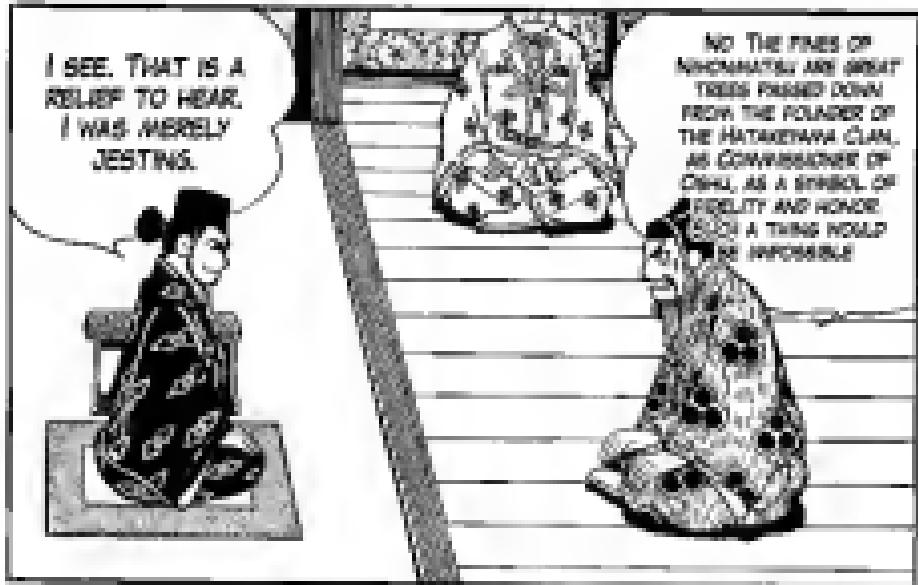
IF HE
ABSOLUTELY
NEEDS IT,
I SHALL LEND
THREE HUNDRED
RIFLES TO MY
GRANDFATHER.







IS IT TRUE
THAT BOTH
THE PINES OF
NISHINAMATSU
HAVE SPLIT
TWO WAIST?



I SEE. THAT IS A
RELIEF TO HEAR.
I WAS MERELY
JESTING.

NO. THE PINES OF
NISHINAMATSU ARE GREAT
TREES PASSED DOWN
FROM THE FOUNDER OF
THE HATAKEYAMA CLAN.
AS CONVERSATION OF
OCHU, AS A SYMBOL OF
FIDELITY AND HONOR.
A THING WOULD
BE IMPOSSIBLE.



WAKAMINE
WAS STILL
YOUNG. HE
HAD SAID
SOMETHING
HE DID NOT
NEED TO
SAY NOW.

HE DID NOT
GO ANY FURTHER
WITH HATAKEYAMA
KONNITSUJI,
BUT HE TURNED
TO ESTABLISH
RELATIONSHIP WITH
UCHI GADATSUJI
OF OBANA.







I HEARD HE THEN
HE CONSPIRED
WITH ISHIGAKI
MITSUHASA
TO OVERTHROW
NAKOSHI AND
STEAL HIS LAND.



BUT HE WAS UNABLE
TO COME TO TESMAN
WITH MITSUHASA, AND
MITSUHASA BORROWED
THE ISOMA'S SOLDIERS
TO ATTACK YOUR
FATHER.



NOW, WHO WAS IT THAT
SAVED YOU AND YOUR
FATHER FROM HIM...?
IF IT WERE NOT FOR
MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER
TANEMUNE, THERE WOULD
BE NO ÔUCHI CLAN.



HOWEVER, YOU ABANDONED MY CLAN AND JOINED THE TANAKA OF MIKAWA. THEN YOU EVEN ABANDONED THE TANAKA AND THE ASHINA OF AIZU AND ARE RETURNING TO THE DATE.



I AM NOT SAYING IT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
I HEAR MY FATHER PROMISED YOU AN ESTATE IN YONEDAWA. YOU MAY STAY THERE AS LONG AS YOU SEE FIT.

YES,
MY LORD...

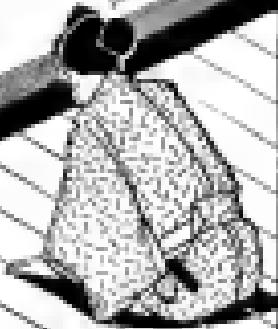
TL NOTE: THE TANAKA, OR RACCOON DOG, IS CONSIDERED A TRICKSTER IN JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY

HMPF. YOU TANAKA... YOU MAY DECEIVE MY FATHER, BUT YOU CANNOT DECEIVE ME!



DO NOT
WORRY. I
WOULD HAVE
DONE THE
SAME HAD
I TRUSTED
HIM.

MY LORD, DON'T
YOU THINK YOU
WENT A LITTLE
TOO FAR?



No. He is a spy
of the Ashina.
He will betray
us at the most
critical time.

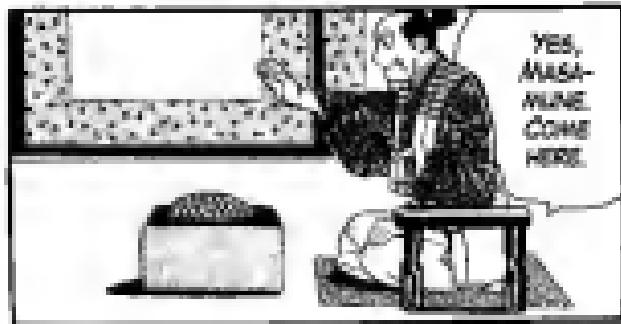
SO, YOU DO
NOT TRUST
UCHI OF
OBAMA, MY
LORD...?

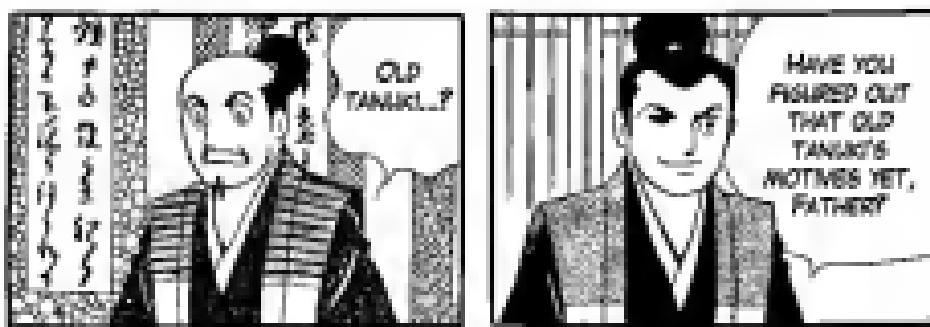


HE WILL
RUN FROM
YONEZAWA
SOONER OR
LATER.



NEW
YEAR'S
DAY,
TENSHO
YEAR 13
(1585)





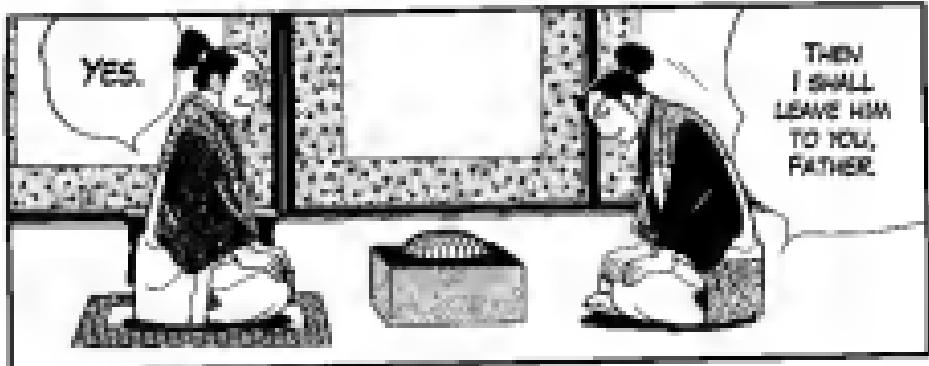
JUST LEAVE
THIS TO YOUR
FATHER. I
BELIEVE IT
IS A GREAT
TROUBLE FOR
YOU WITH HIS
MATE NOT
PRESENT.

IF YOU THINK
SO, FATHER,
THEN THAT
IS ALL
WELL.



Yes.

THEN
I SHALL
LEAVE HIM
TO YOU,
FATHER.



FATHER IS TOO
NAIVE. THAT MAN
HAS NO REASON
TO RETURN.



MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 11 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 12: CAT AND MOUSE



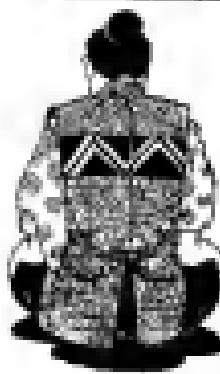
HE SENT
A MESSENGER
TO AZU,
REPORTING
THAT HIS VISIT
TO KOMEZAWA
WAS FOR THE
PURPOSE OF
SPYING ON THE
CHARACTER
AND PLAN OF
MASANORI.

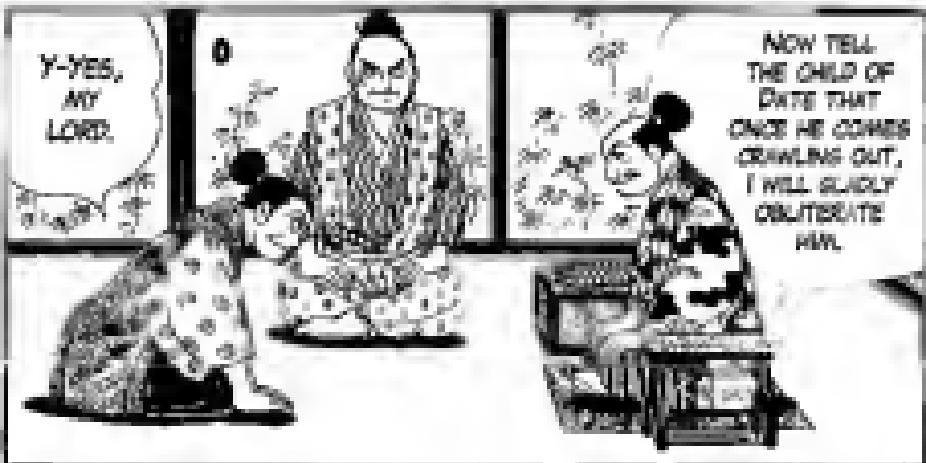
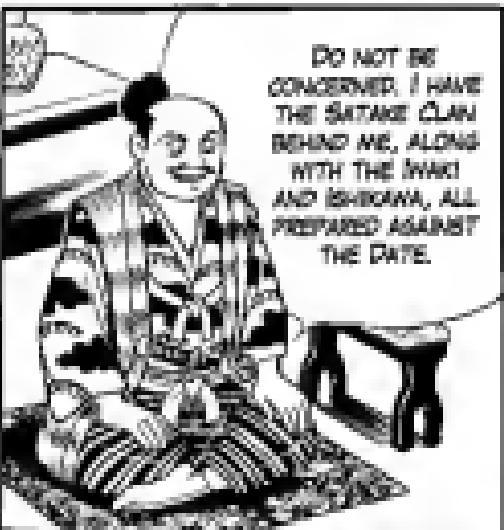


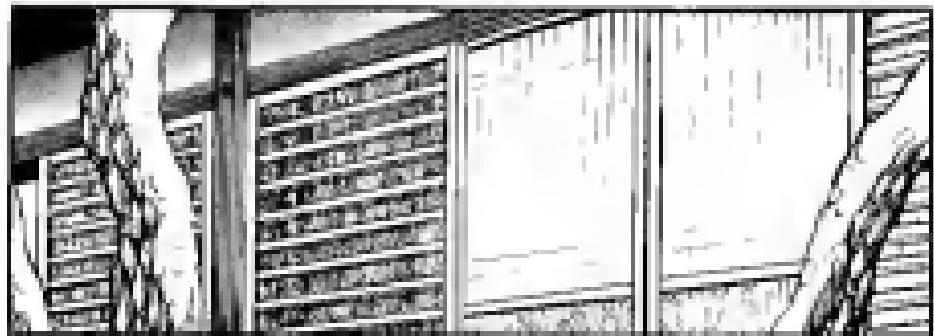
YES.
MY LORD MUST
BE EXTREMELY
SUSPICIOUS OF
THEM.

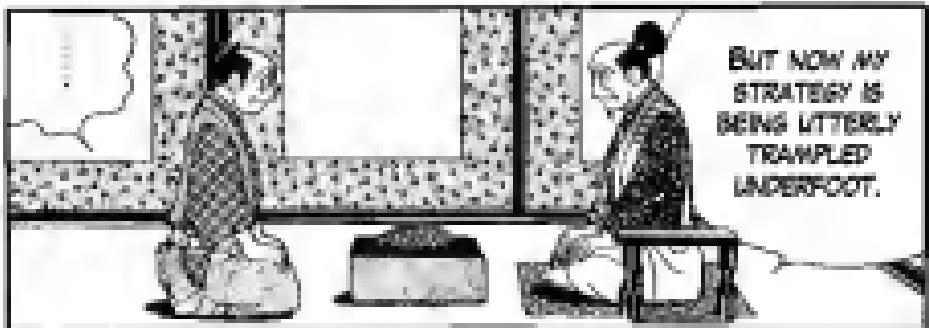


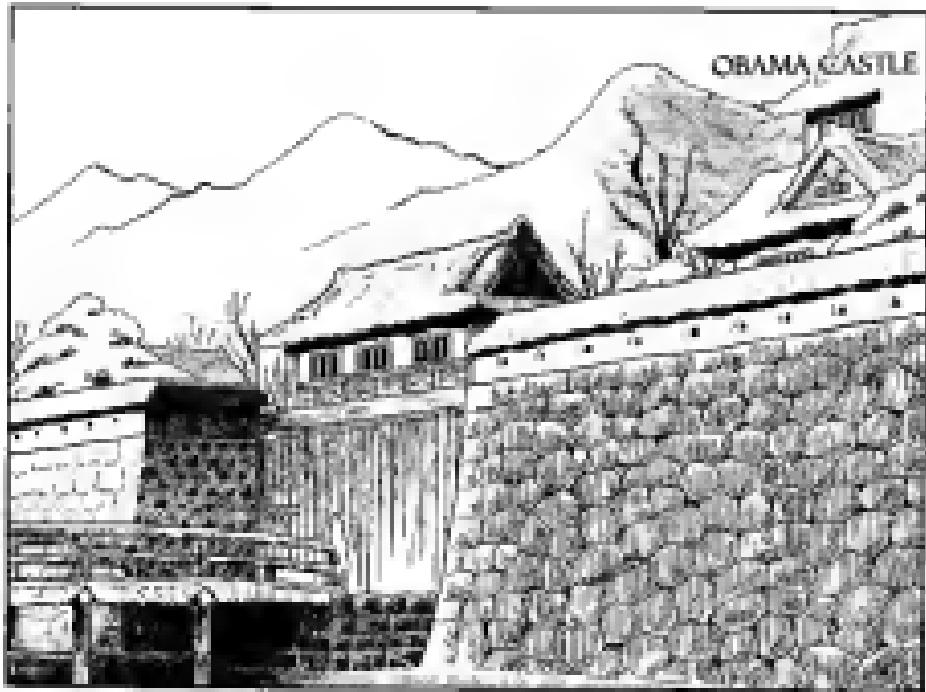
OH, SO THE
DATE PLAN ON
DESTROYING THE
ASHINA WITHIN
THREE YEARS?





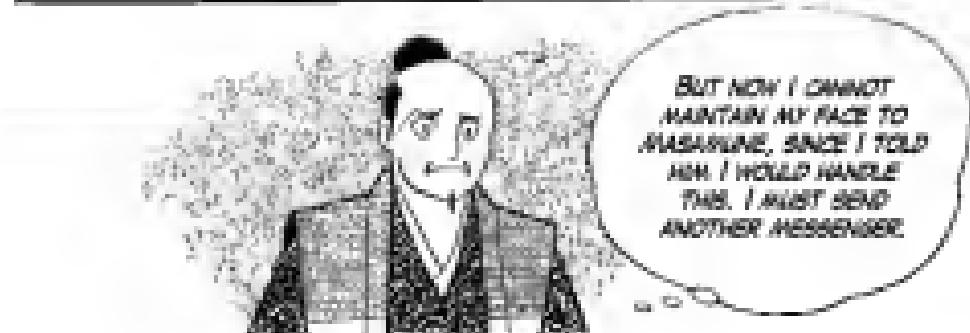
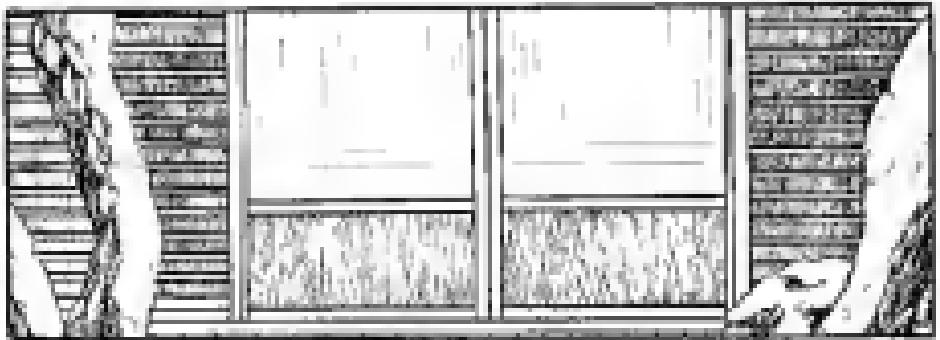


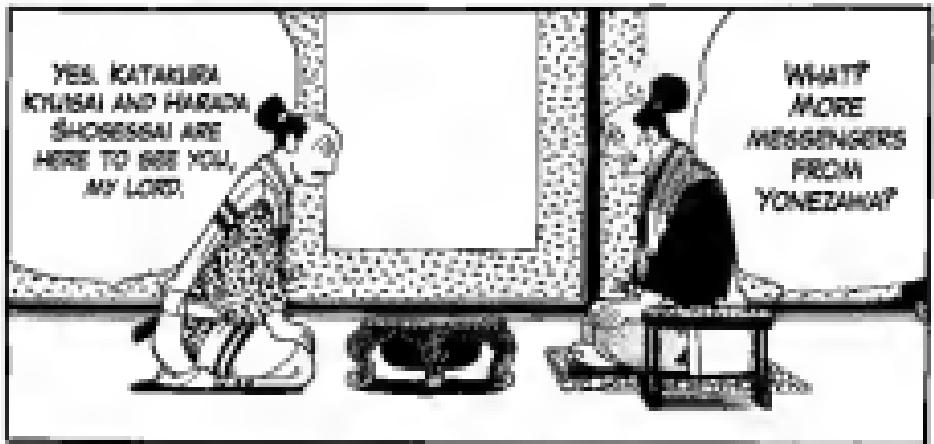












I ALREADY
KNOW
WHAT YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE IS.



AS I HAVE TOLD SIR ISANDO,
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF RETURNING
TO YONEDAWA AS THEY SAY. A SOILED
VINE CANNOT BEAR EGGPLANTS.
THERE IS NO REASON THAT DYNASTY
LORD DATE COULD GIVE BIRTH TO
A HERO. IF HE IS A TRUE HERO,
I DARE HIM TO TAKE MY LAND
WITH BOWS AND ARROWS!



YES. HE WAS SO
MENACING THAT
WE HAD NO TIME
TO EVEN OPEN
OUR MOUTHS.

I SEE. SO
HE SAID TO
TAKE HIS
LAND WITH
BOMBS AND
ARROWS...

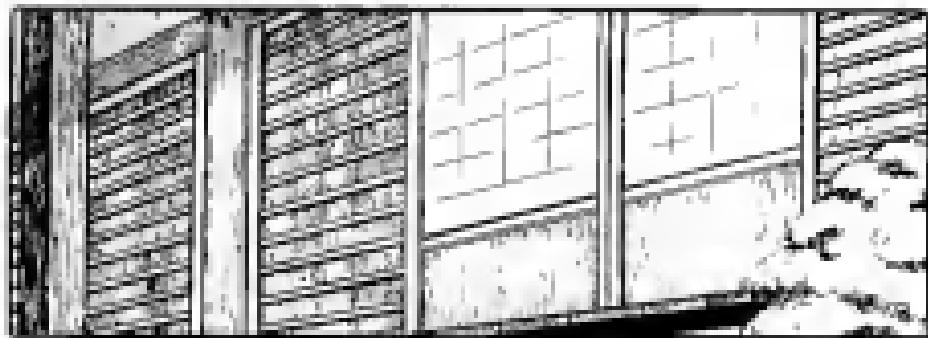


OUR
DEEPEST
APOLOGIES.

YOU HAVE
DONE WELL.
NOW STAND
DOWN AND
REBT.







LORD DATE IS
A MOUSE AND
AIKU IS A CAT.
WHY WOULD I ALLY
WITH A MOUSE
CHASED BY
A CAT?

TELL YOUR
RETIRIED LORD
THAT ANY FURTHER
AMBASSADERS FROM
YONEZAWA WILL BE
GREETED BY BOWS
AND ARROWS!





YES. WE TRIED
TO EXPLAIN OVER
AND OVER, BUT
HE REFUSED TO
LISTEN.

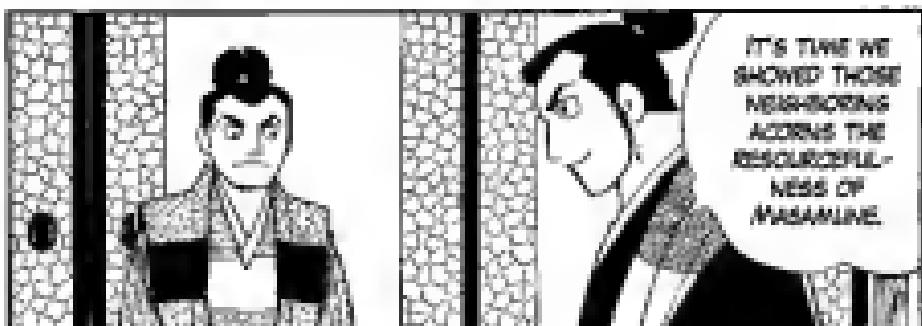
I SEE. SO
HE CALLED
THE DATE A
WOMAN BEING
CHASED BY
A CAT.







I CANNOT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR MY RETAINERS IF I DO NOT CRUSH THOSE WHO RETURN TO THE CLAN ONLY TO DEFY THEIR LORD.



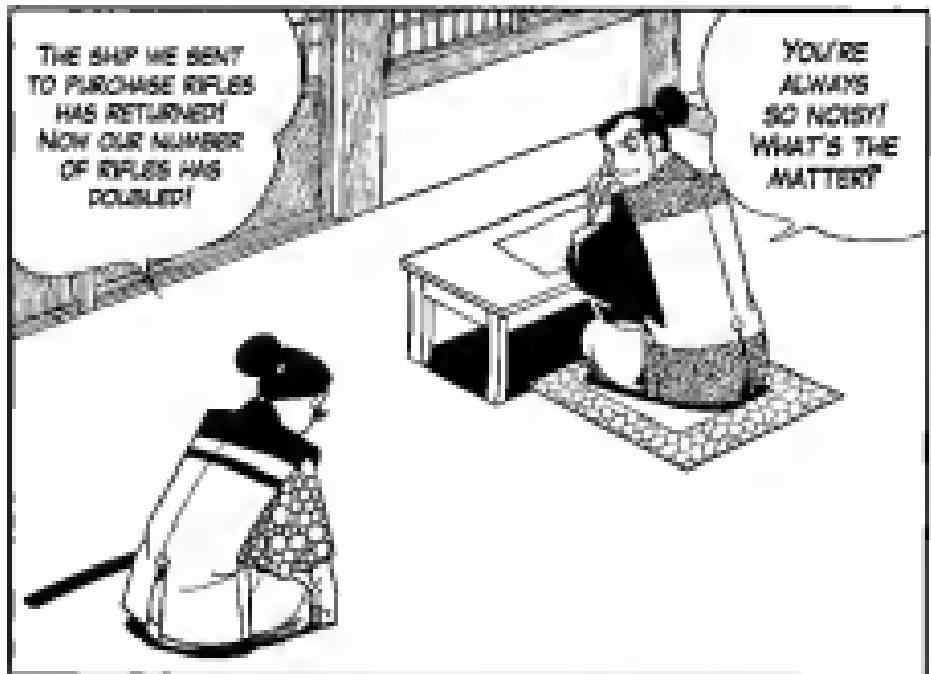
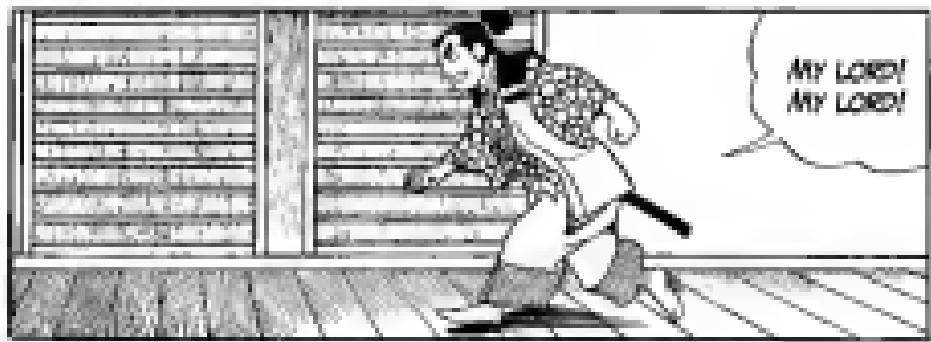
MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

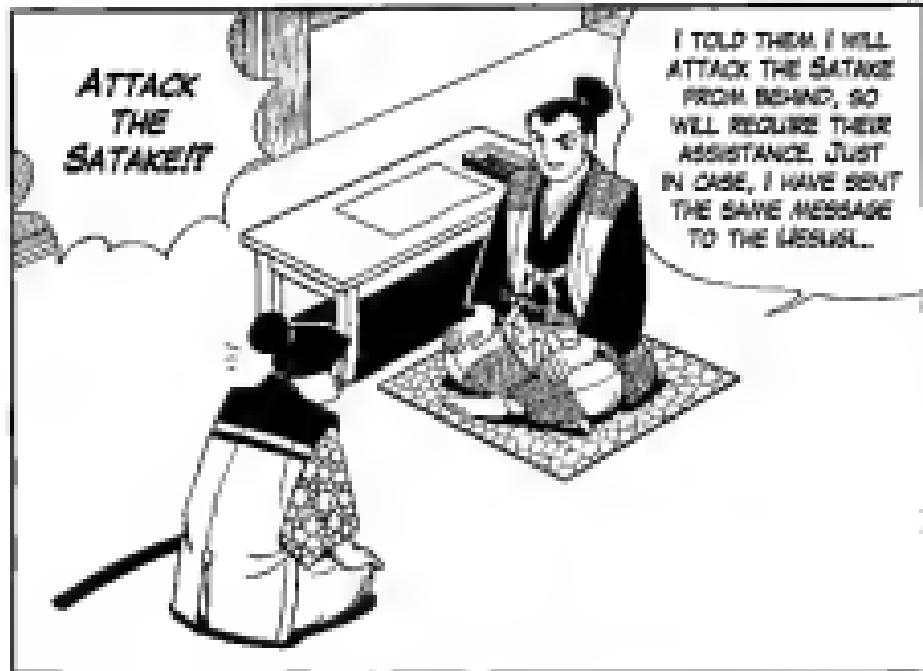
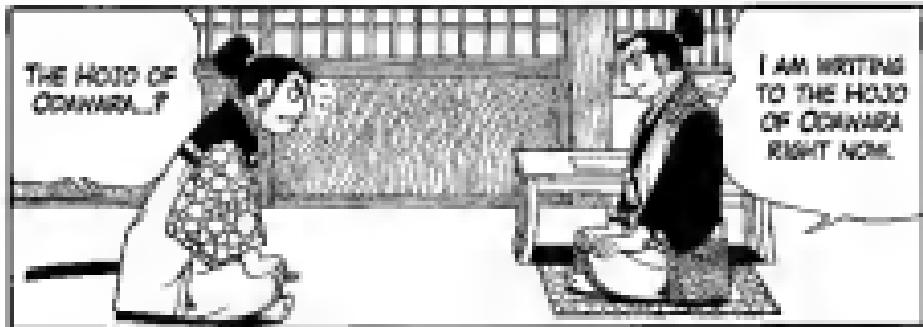
DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 12 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

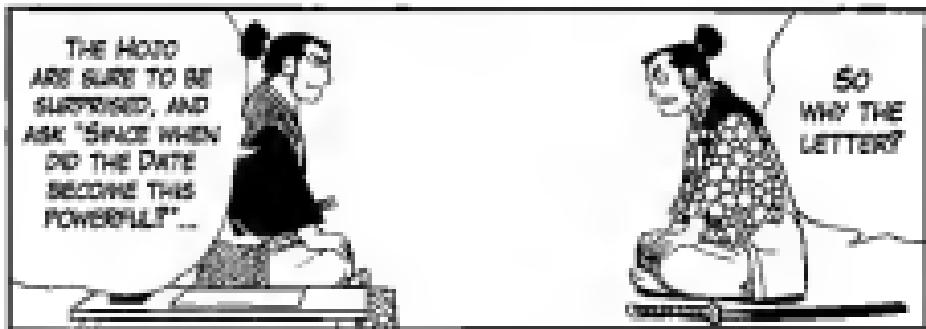
TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

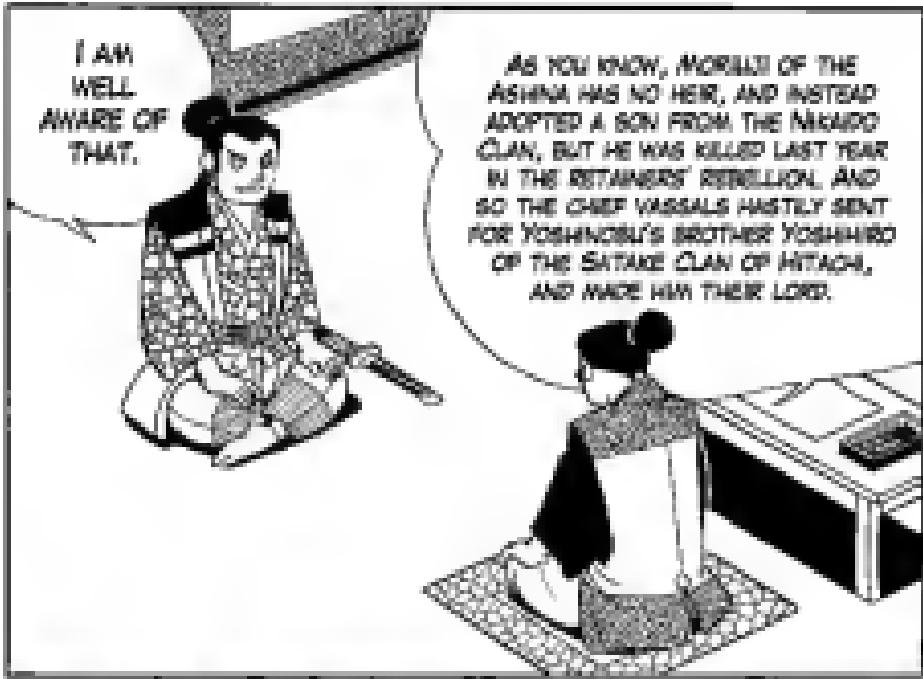
CHAPTER 13: THE SIEGE OF OBAMA











BUT THE REBELLION ONLY HAPPENED BECAUSE THEY ADOPTED A SON FROM THE NAGAO. NOT ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE ASHINA CLAN SUPPORT THE SATAKE. IF THE SATAKE DO NOT SEND REINFORCEMENTS, THE ASHINA WILL COLLAPSE FROM WITHIN.



BUT
THAT IS
FAR TOO
LENIENT.



AHHH-
HAAA...



I WILL SAY THAT THEY APPEAR
TO HAVE AILED AND ABSTINENT
THE INFIDELITY OF MY RETAINER,
SADATSUNA OF OBAMA, AND
ASK WHETHER THEY WILL TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY. AND IF THEY DO,
THEN THEY MUST BE PREPARED
FOR THE MOUSE TO CROSS THE
PASS TO DEVOUR THE CAT...



IS
THERE
MORE
TO YOUR
PLANT?



I WILL
WRITE A
LETTER
TO THE
ASHINA.



AHHH-



THAT WILL
MEAN THAT
THE ASHINA
WILL NOT SEND
REINFORCE-
MENTS TO
OBAMA.

THIS IS WHAT
THEY CALL
STRATEGY.

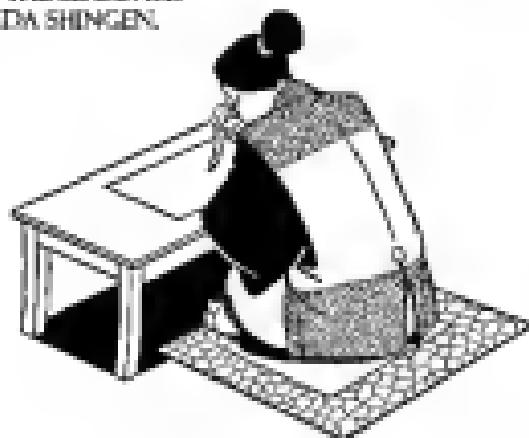
YOU'RE IN-
CORRIGIBLE,
MY LORD!



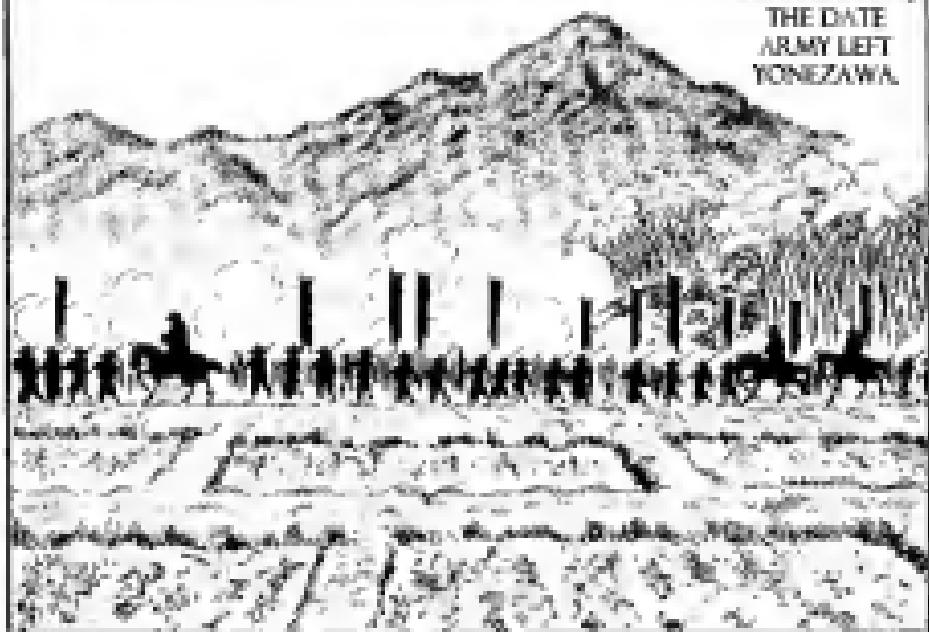
HE PERFORMED SUCH GREAT ACTS
OF DIPLOMACY UNTHINKABLE FOR
A GREENHORN OF THE AGE OF
NINETEEN, THAT HE WAS SAID TO
HAVE SURPASSED THE SEASONED
VETERAN TAKEDA SHINGEN.

THOSE IN OBAMA
ARE STUBBORNLY
DEFENDING THEIR
CASTLE BY NOW.
I DO NOT PLAN ON
CLASHING WITH
THEM HEAD-ON.

THIS WAS BUT
THE FIRST ACT OF
DATE MASAMUNE'S
LIFE OF GREAT LIES.



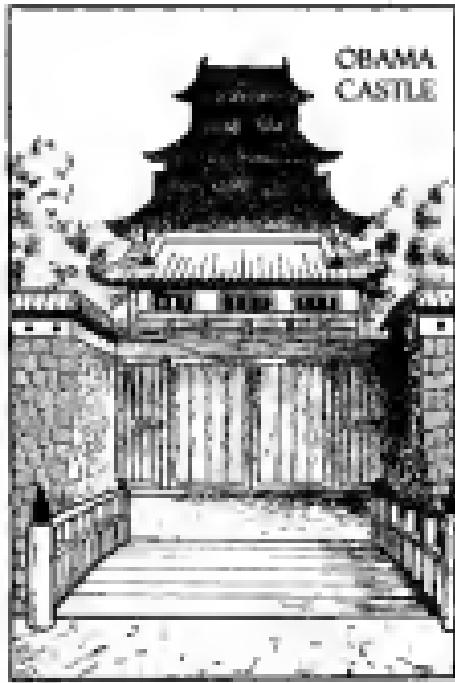
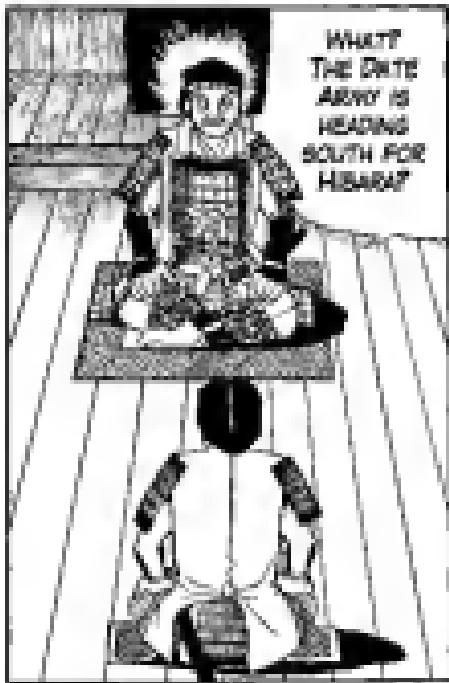
BEFORE LONG,
THE DATE
ARMY LEFT
YONEZAWA.

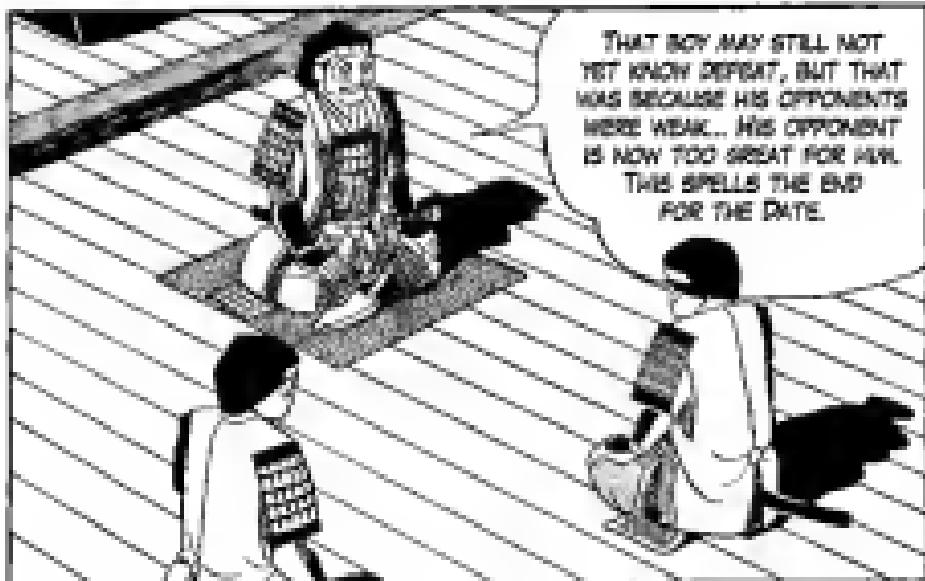
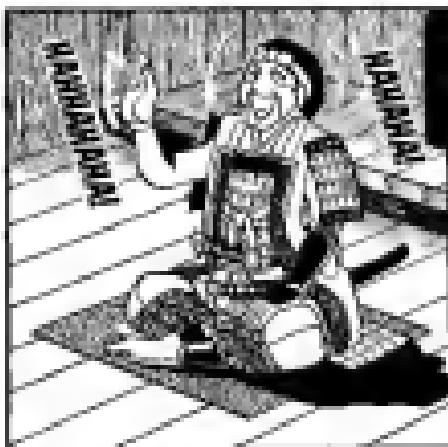


THE DIRECT ROUTE
TO ASSAULTING OSHIMA
WAS TO CROSS ITABA,
MOVE INTO SUCHINOME,
THEN TO HIROSHIMATI
AND OSHIMA, BUT THE
DATE ARMY CHANGED
DIRECTION AND
HEADED FOR HISARIA.









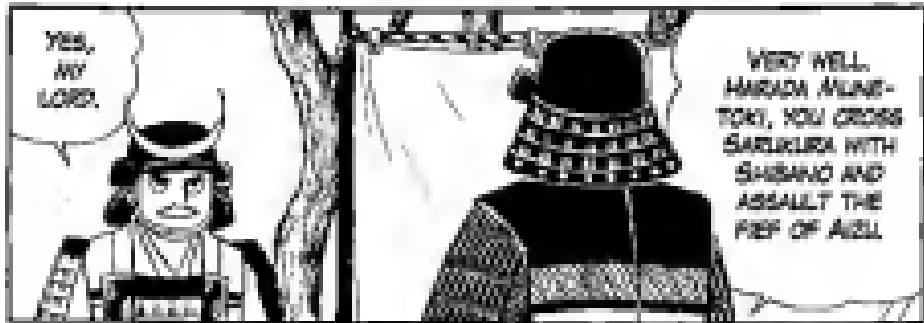
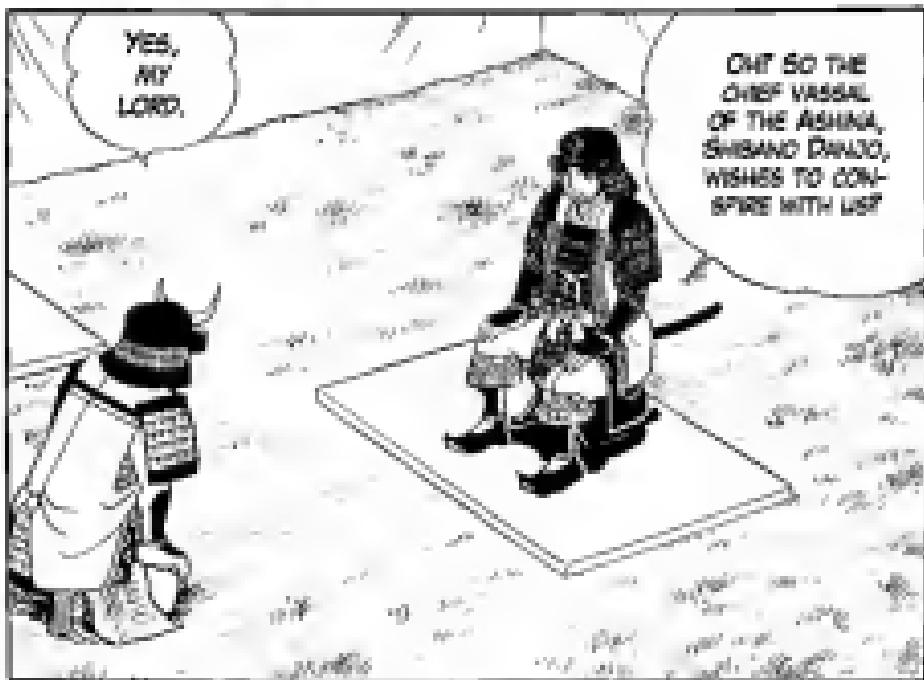


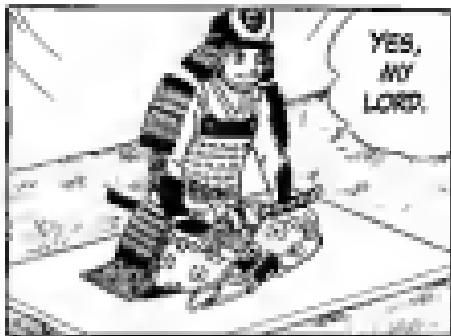
HHEHHHEH...
WE'LL HAVE TO
SEE WHETHER THE
CHIEF VASSALS OF
THE ASHINA ARE
LOYAL TO THEIR
CURRENT LORD
SENT BY THE
SATAKE.

WITH ALL DUE
RESPECT, MY
LORD, IS NOT
THAT IRISH IN
OBAMA?

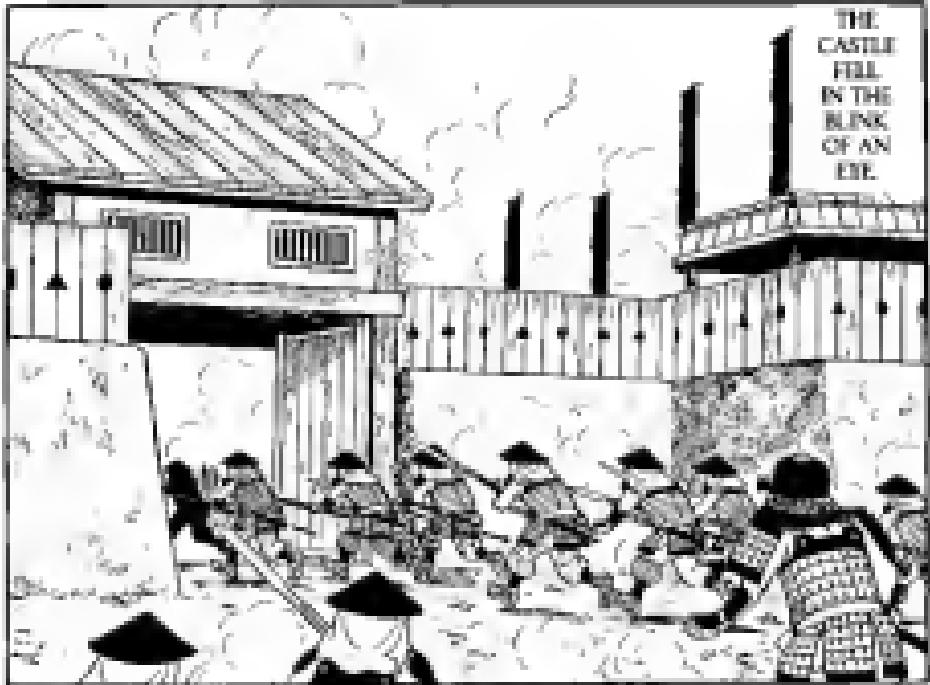
AND WE'LL
FIND OUT
IF WE KEEP
MOVING...

MASAMUNE CLEARED
THE SKULLS OF A VETERAN
SITHINMALLE FOR A
NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD. AS
HE MARCHED ON, HE WAS
TESTING WHICH WIND
WOULD SWALL IN HIS NET,
AND WHAT KIND OF BAIT
THEY WOULD TAKE.





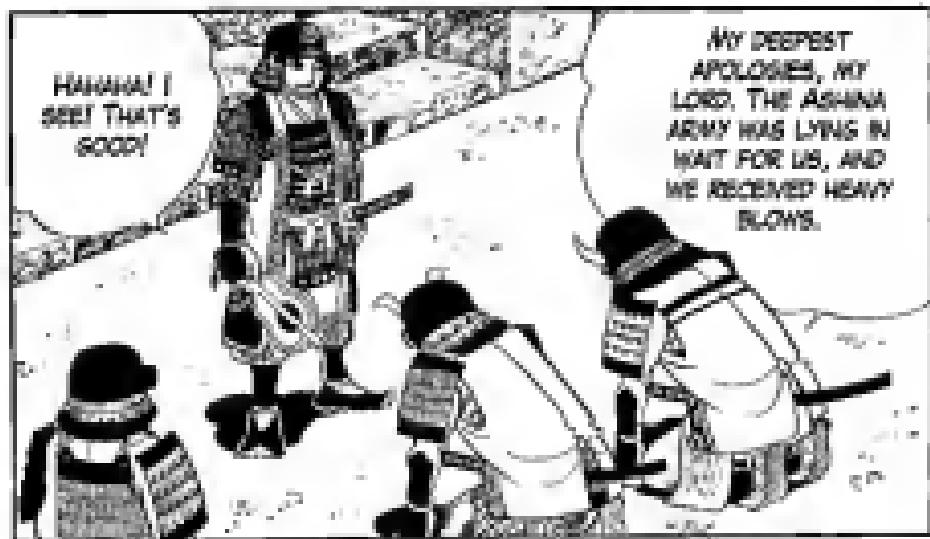
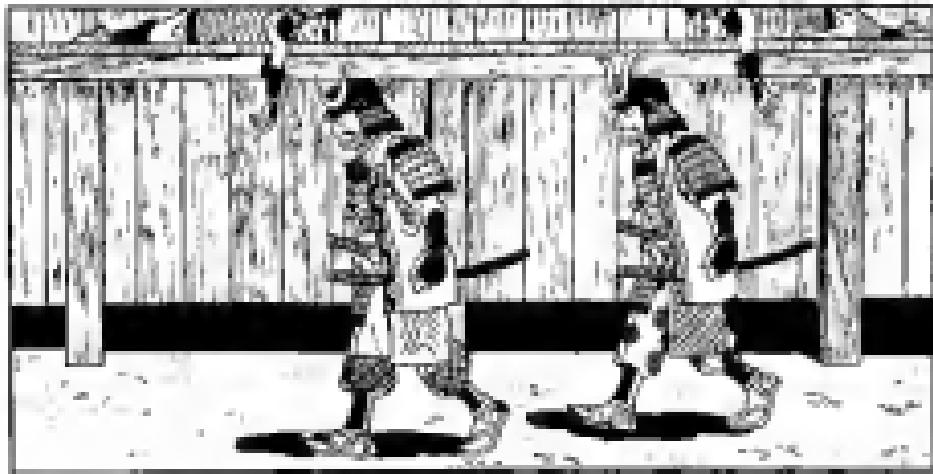
THE
CASTLE
FELL
IN THE
BLINK
OF AN
EYE.



OH.
I SEE.
SEND
THEM
HERE.

MY LORD! MARADA
AND SHIBANO'S ARMY
YOU SENT TO ATTACK
AIZU WERE FORCED
TO RETREAT BY THE
ASHINA'S ARMY, AND
HAVE RETURNED
HERE!











IF HIS SON IS AGAINST IT, IT WILL BE HARD TO SECURE THEIR ALLIANCE. AND THE SEASON FOR THE DATE ARMY TO RETREAT IS COMING NEAR. IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO BURN THE CROPS AND INFLAME THE PEASANTS' WRATH. LET US WITHDRAW FOR NOW.



I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING DIFFERENT FROM YOUR USUAL STRATEGY, MY LORD. THIS IS ABOUT THE TIME YOU USUALLY WITHDRAW...



WELL, TOSORO AND KOUJURO HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT MY STRATEGY YET?





AND HARMON AND SHIBANO HAVE ENTERED THE FIEF OF AIZU, AND HAVE LOST MIGHTY-GENLY.



BY MAKING IT SEEM THAT I WOULD ATTACK AIZU, OVER HALF THE ASHINA'S REINFORCEMENTS TO OBAMA HAVE RETURNED TO THE ASHINA.



AH!

THE AIZU ARE TOO MIGHTY... AND IT IS THE SEASON FOR THE DATE TO WITHDRAW. NO ONE IN THESE LANDS WOULD FIND IT STRANGE IF WE WITHDRAW.



NOW YOU FINALLY UNDERSTAND.



SO, YOU BREAK YOUR PRECEDENT AND ATTACK OBAMA!



ALSO, I HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER TODAY FROM HOJO UJIYASU. THE HOJO WILL JOIN FORCES WITH US AND ATTACK THE SAKATE.



THE LIE I SENT IN THE LETTER BEFORE WE SET FORTH HAS PAID OFF!

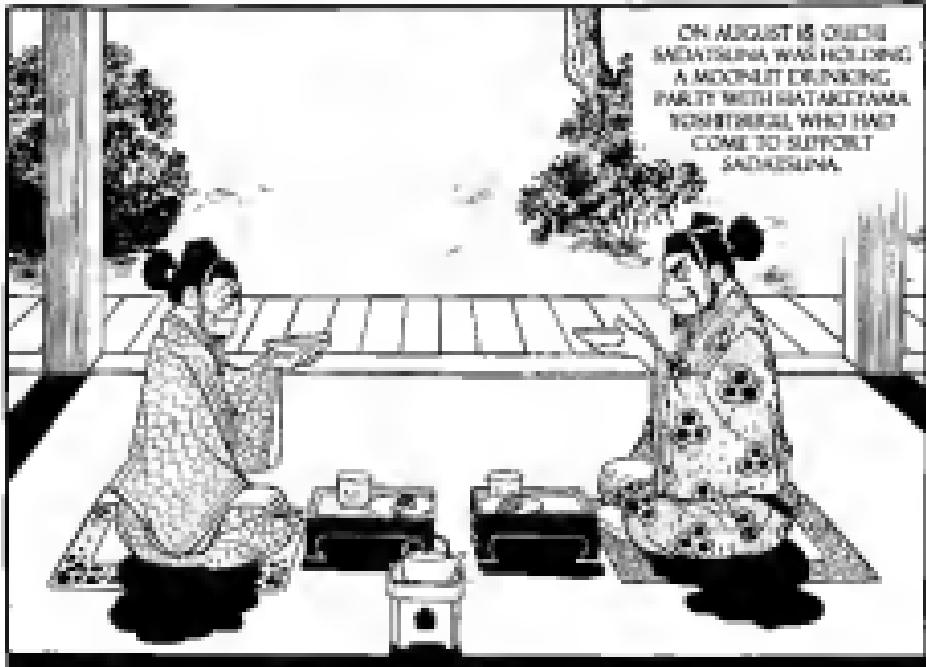


REALLY?



NOT LONG AFTER, THE DATE ARMY BEGAN WITH THE PLANNING TO YONEZAWA. IN MOST DYNASTIES' EYES, THIS WAS THE USUAL COURSE OF ACTION FOR THE DATE ARMY.

OTEMOJI
CASTLE
GRANDE
CASTLE OF
CHAMAO



ON AUGUST 18 OUCHI
SADATSUNA WAS HOLDING
A MOONLIGHT DRINKING
PARTY WITH MATSUKIYAMA
TOSHIIE, WHO HAD
COME TO SUPPORT
SADATSUNA.



THE DATE THAT ENTERED AIZU SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT.

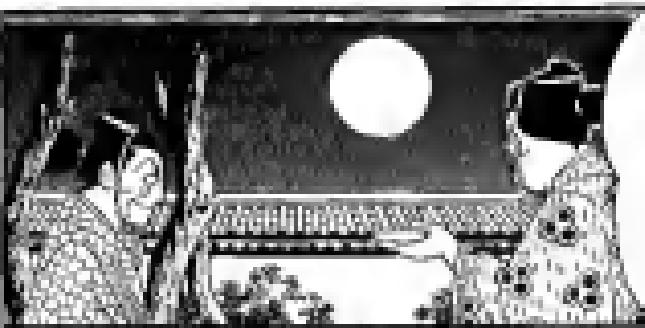


HAHAHAHA!
SO THE MOUSE
TIRED OF THE
CAT AND
RETURNED
HOME!

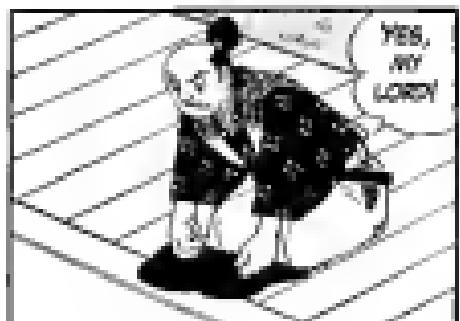


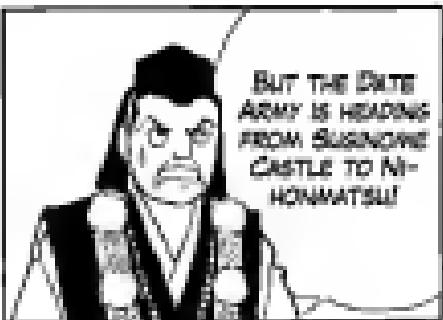
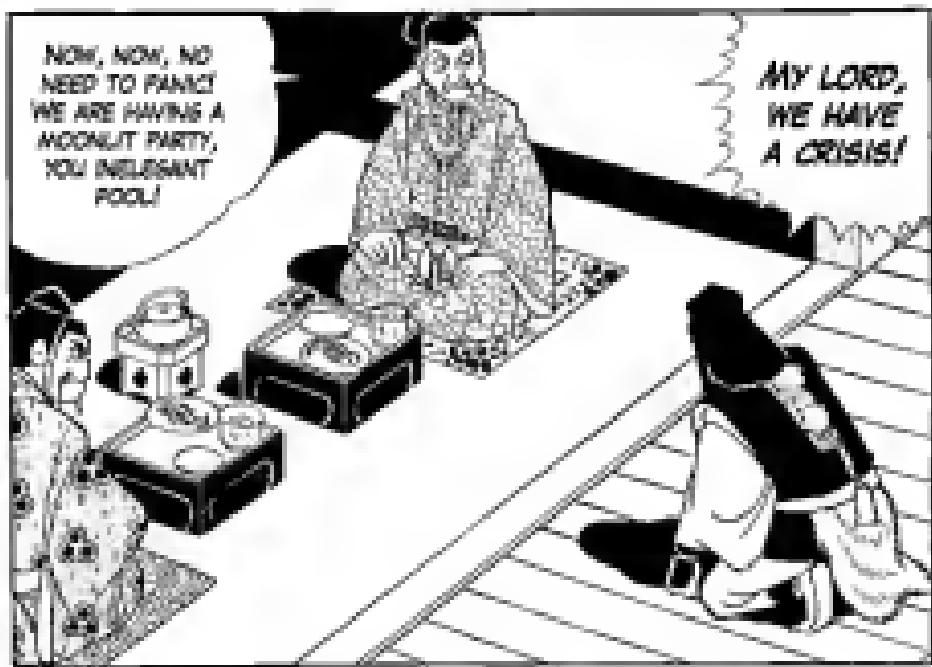
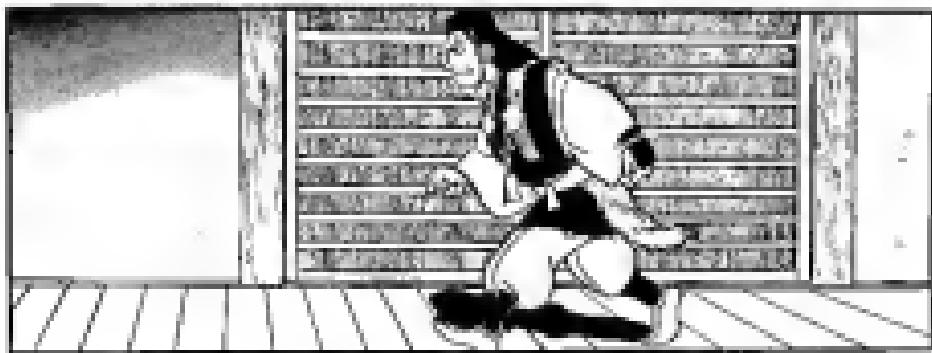
HEHEHE... I THINK
THE ANGRY KNOWS
HIS PLACE NOW, AND
THAT THERE ARE
NOT ONLY CATS
IN THIS WORLD,
BUT DOGS.

THAT ONE-EYED
BASTARD NEEDS
TO KNOW HIS
PLACE. I SUP-
POSE THE DATE
CLAN IS DONE
FOR.



HE WAS IN ECSTASY
FOR WINNING EVERY
BATTLE HE FOUGHT
FOR THE PAST THREE
YEARS, DANCING WITH
THE PEASANTS UNDER
THE MOONLIGHT. I
WONDER HOW THE
MOON WILL SHINE ON
YONEZAWA THIS YEAR.







DON'T BE
REPUGLANT!
THE DATE
WOULD NOT
MARCH
NOW!



THE DATE
ARMY IS
MARCHING
ON MY
CASTLE!



IT APPEARS
THAT AOKI
SHURI AND NAITO
KANBUKE HAVE
SURRENDERED TO
THE DATE BOY!



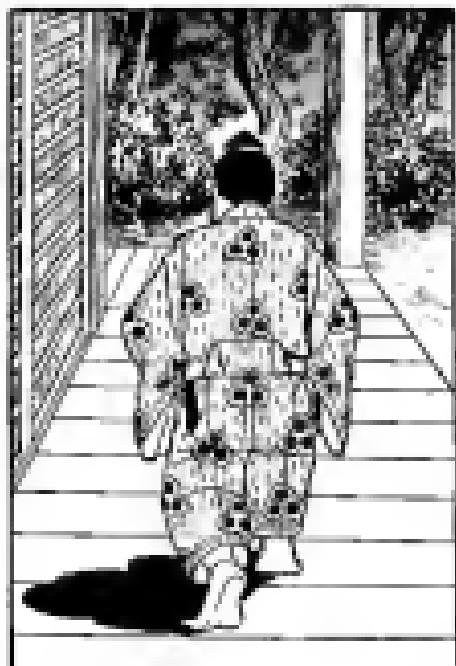
AND BEIDES,
AOKI
SHURI OF KASHIWA
AND NAITO KANBUKE OF
HARIMACHI HAVE
FORTIFIED THE DEFENSES
ALONG THE WAY!



WHAT?
AOKI AND
NAITO HAVE
SURREN-
DERED?

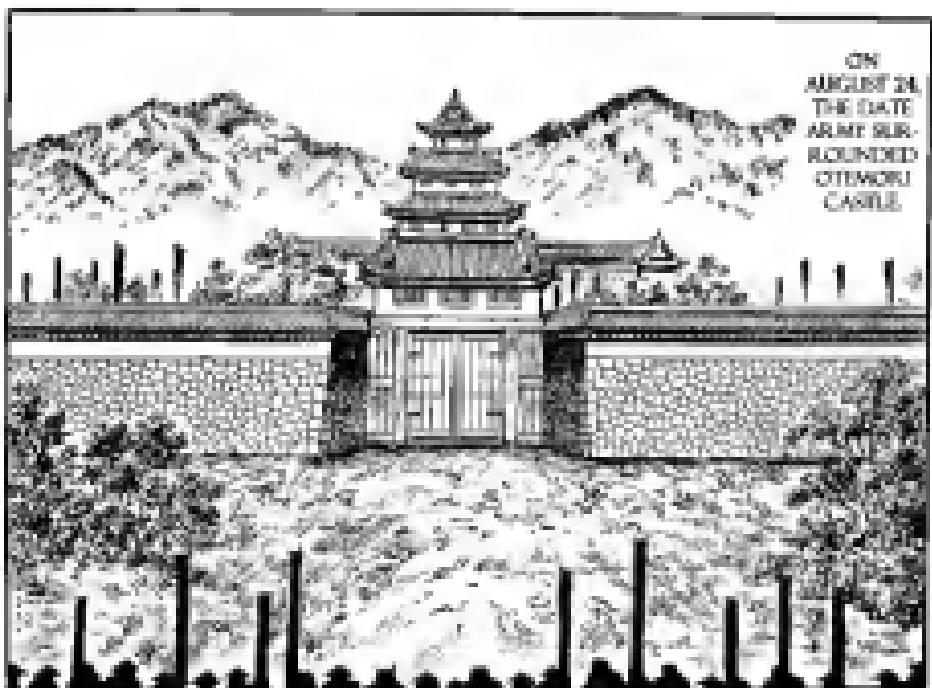
WHAT
THE TAMURA
ARE ON THE
MOVE?

IT WOULD SEEM THAT
THEIR RETREAT FROM AIZU
WAS NOT IN SICKER DEPART,
BUT WAS PLANNED FROM THE
BEGINNING AS PROOF, HIS
HIRE'S CLAN, THE TAMURA,
ARE MOVING IN
ACCORD

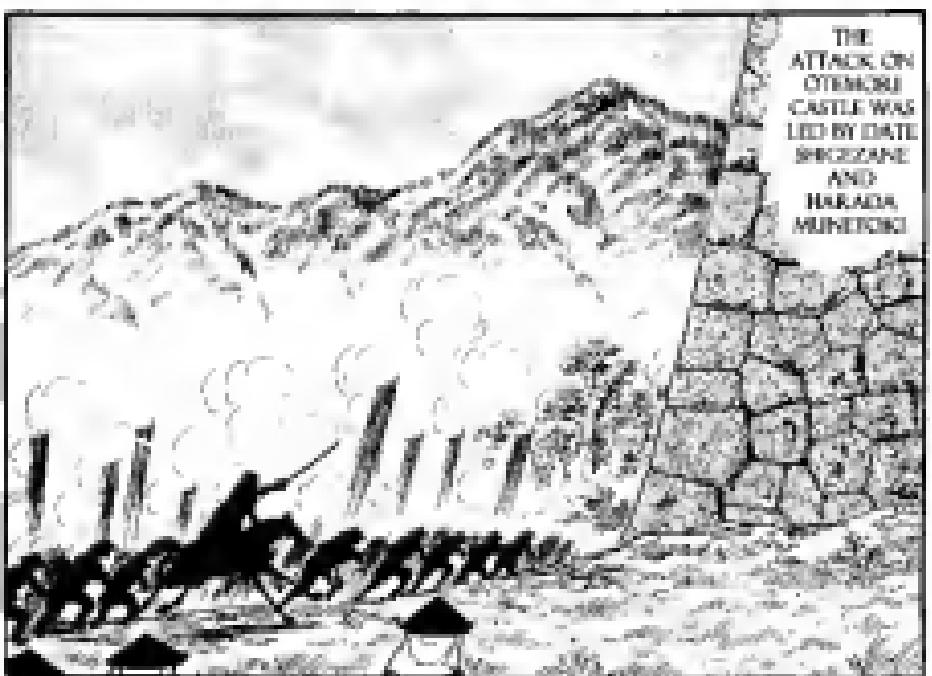


LORD SAKATSUBA,
IF THE TAMURA
ARE ON THE MOVE,
MY CASTLE OF
NIKOMATSU IS IN
MORE DANGER THAN
OBAMA. NOW IF
YOU'LL EXCUSE
ME...





ON
AUGUST 24,
THE DATE
ARMY SUR-
ROUNDED
OTEMORI
CASTLE.



THE
ATTACK ON
OTEMORI
CASTLE WAS
LED BY DATE
SHIZUKE AND
HARADA
MUNEKICHI

AT ABOUT THAT TIME,
REINFORCEMENTS FROM
THE ASHINA
AND
HAKUKEIYAMA
CAME TO
SADATSUMA'S AID.

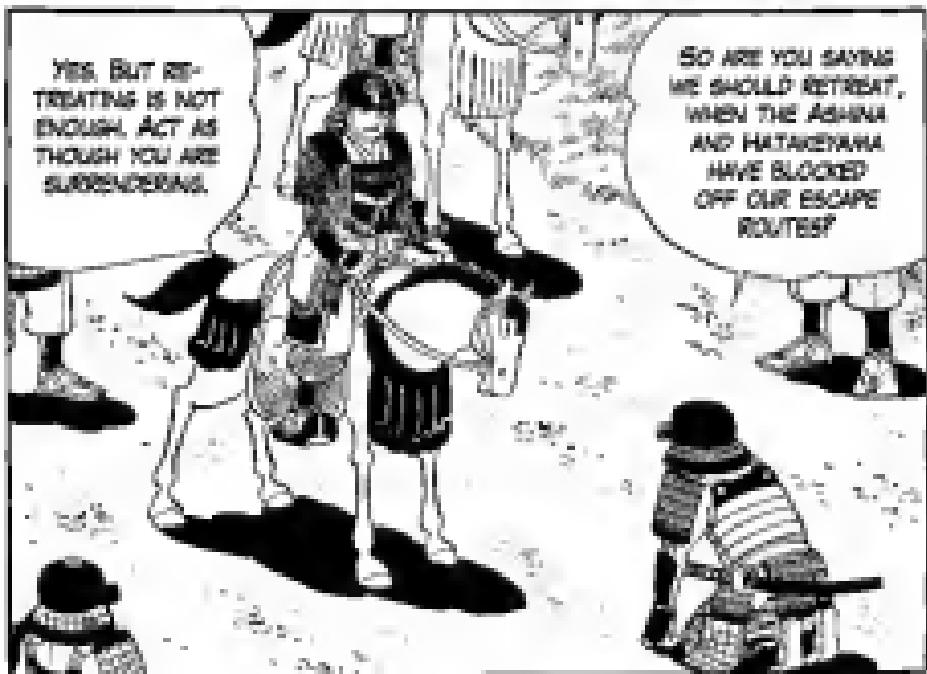


AND
ASSISTED
THEM FROM
OUTSIDE
THE
CASTLE





BUT THIS WAS
WHEN DATE
MASAMUNE'S
STRATEGY
TOOK A
DISDAINFUL
TURN



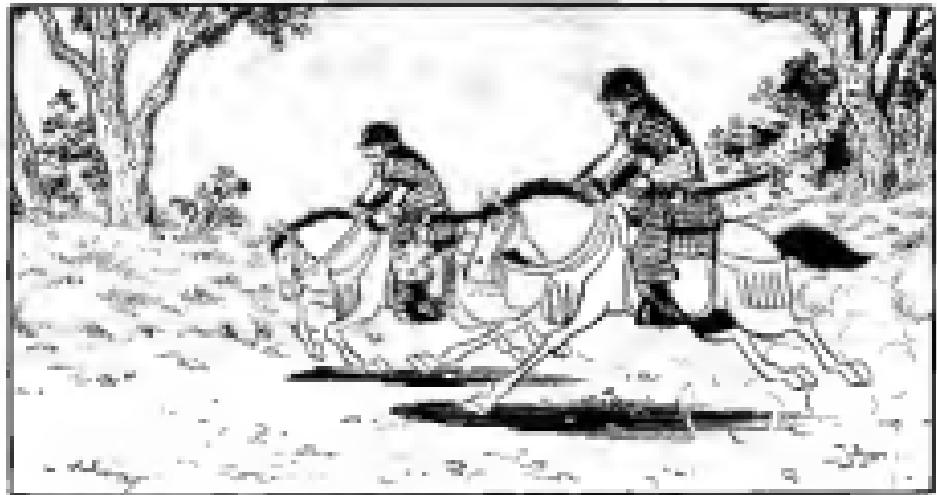
YES, BUT RE-
TREATING IS NOT
ENOUGH. ACT AS
THOUGH YOU ARE
SURRENDERING.

SO ARE YOU SAYING
WE SHOULD RETREAT,
WHEN THE ASHINA
AND HATAKEYAMA
HAVE BLOCKED
OFF OUR ESCAPE
ROUTE?



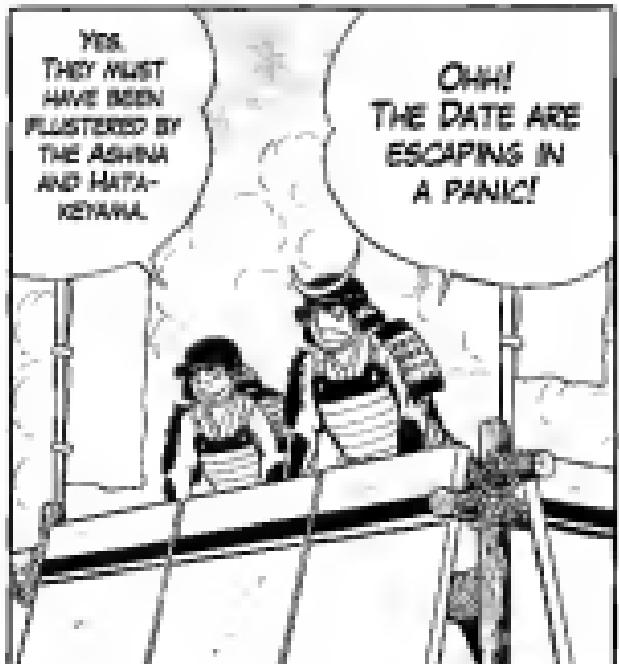
STILL, THIS
IS AN ORDER.
WE MUST
FOLLOW IT.

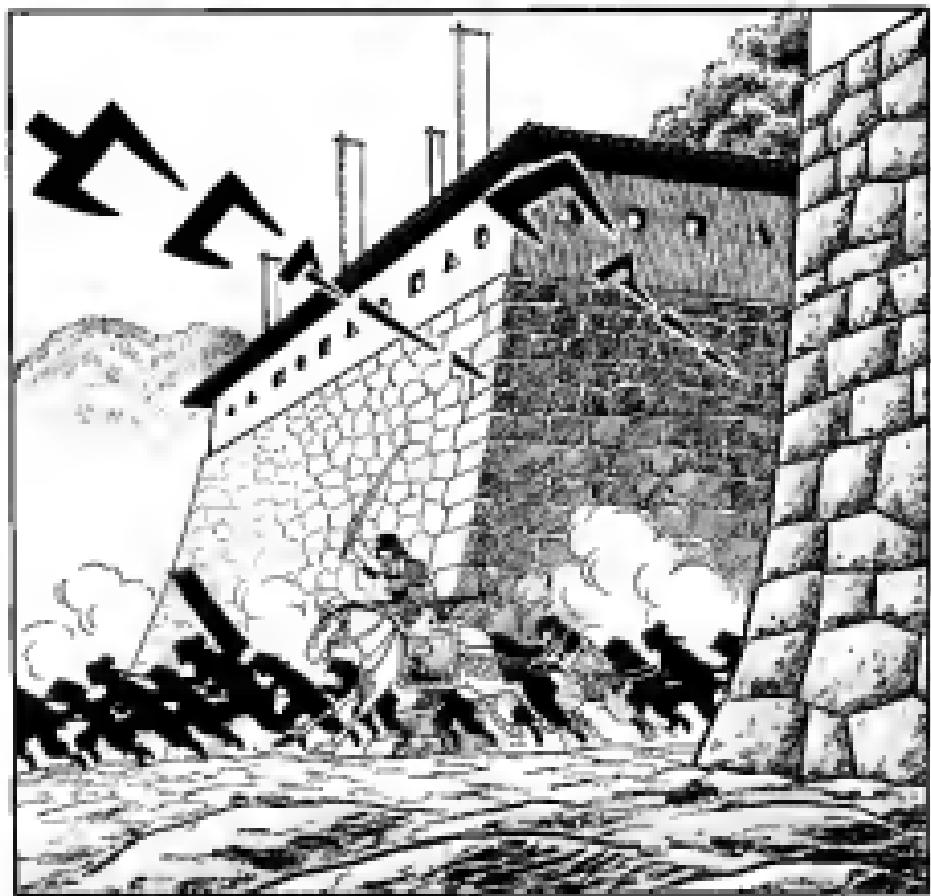
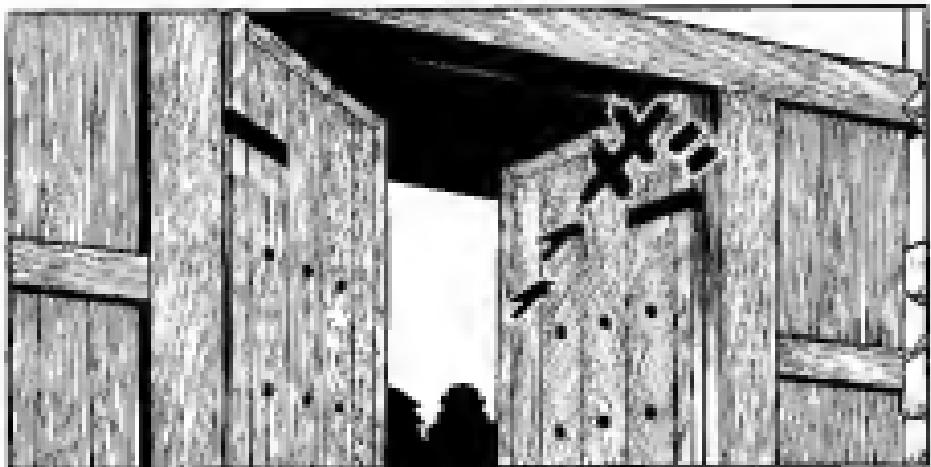
WHAT
COULD OUR
LORD BE
THINKING?

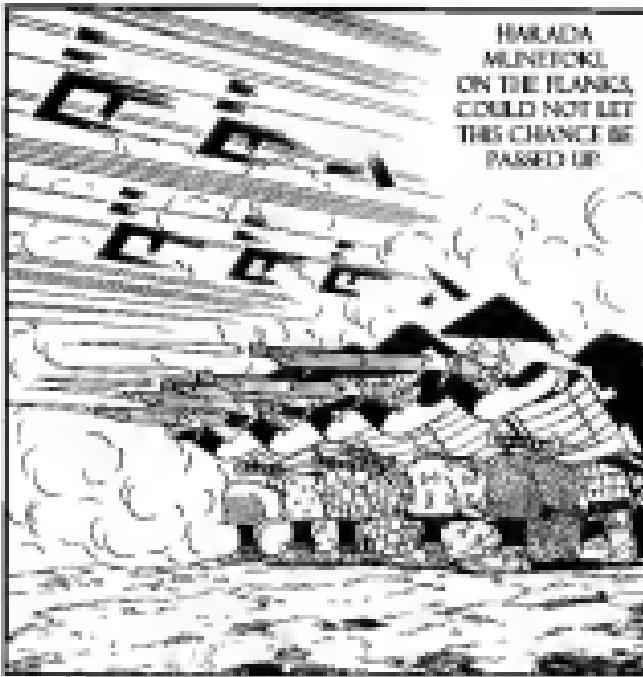


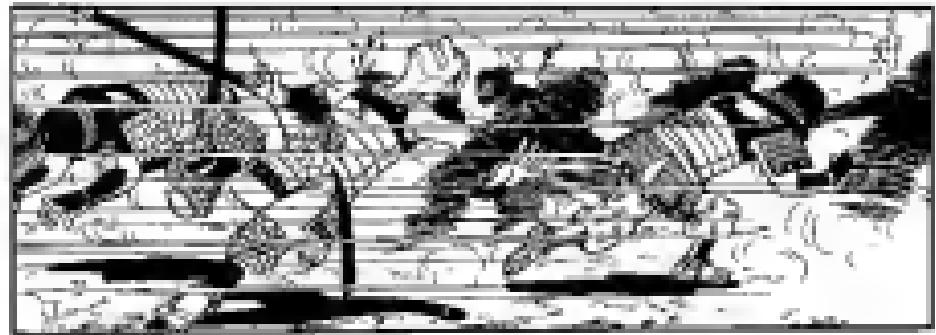


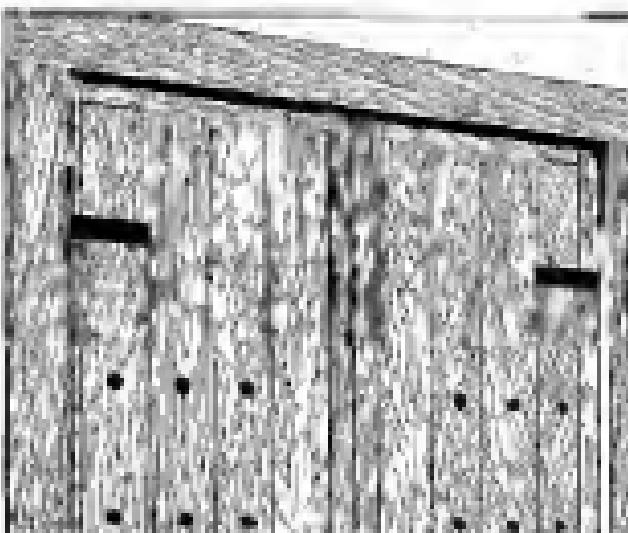
NOW, HURRY!
SURRENDER OR RETREAT!











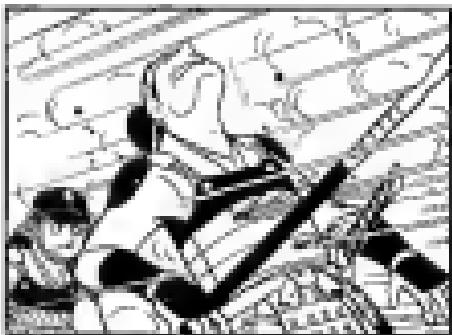
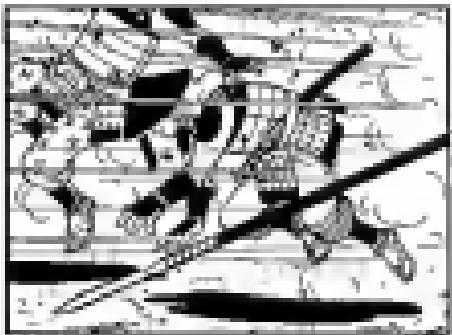
HEY
OPEN THE
GATES!
OPEN THE
GATES!

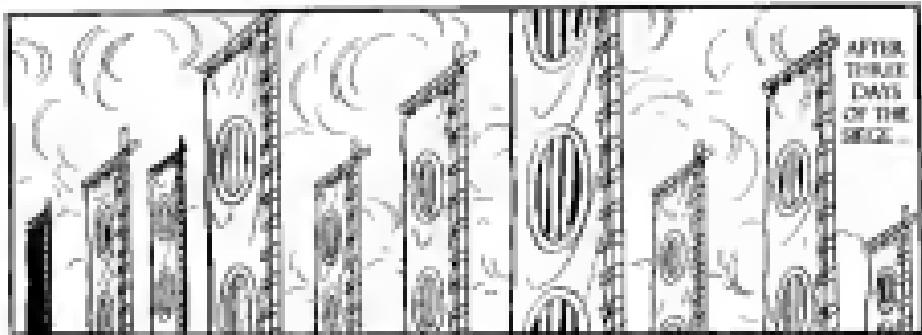
NINN-
NISH...

IF WE OPEN THE
GATES, WE WILL
LET THE ENEMY
DO! OPEN AN
ESCAPE ROUTE
YOURSELF!!

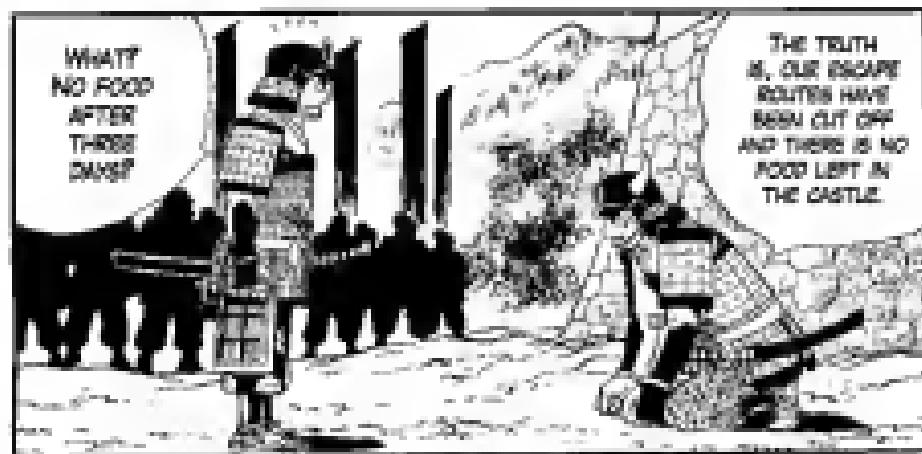
RETRAIT
TO THE
ASHINA AND
HATAKEYAMA'S
(CAMP)

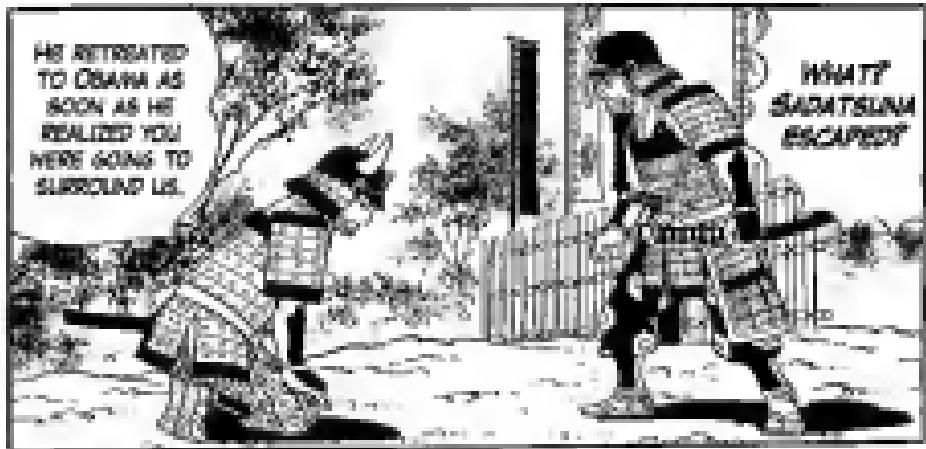






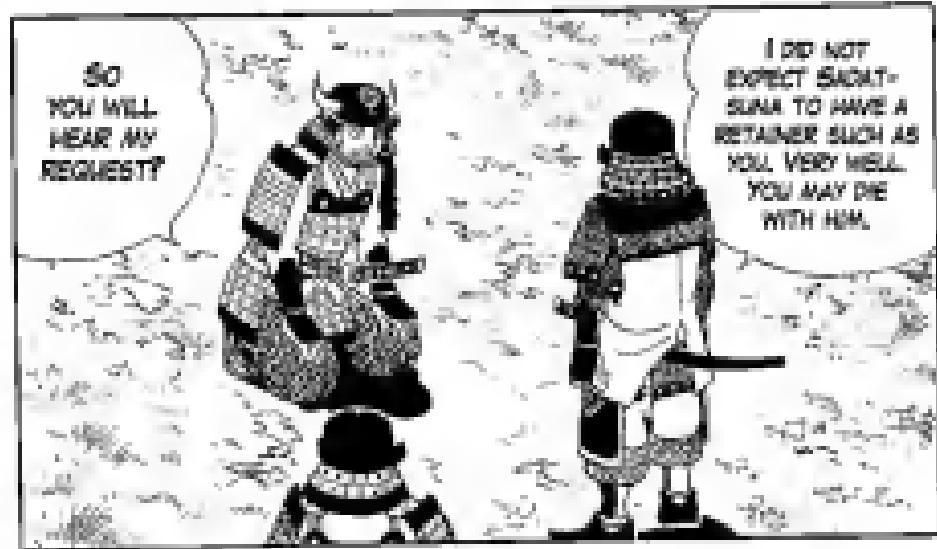
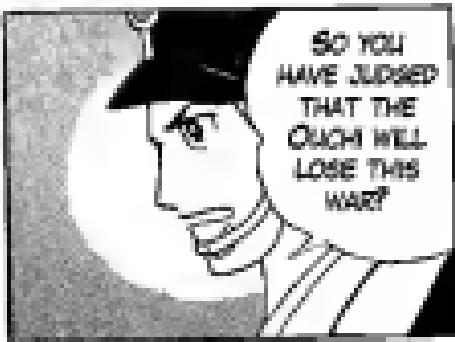
AFTER
THREE
DAYS
ON THE
SEIGE...

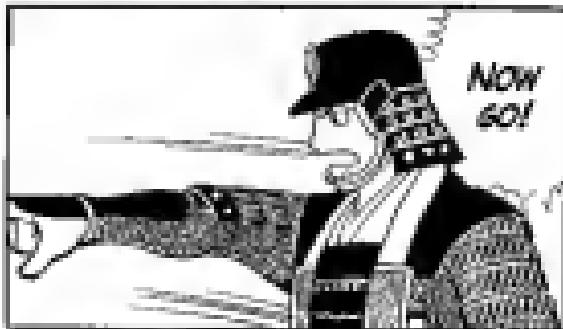
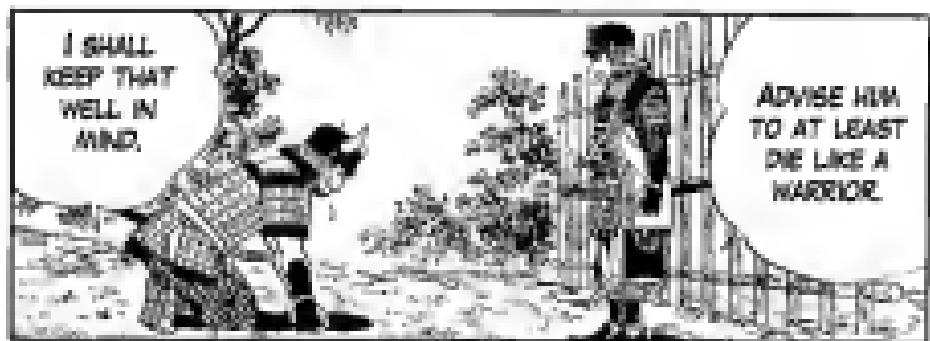






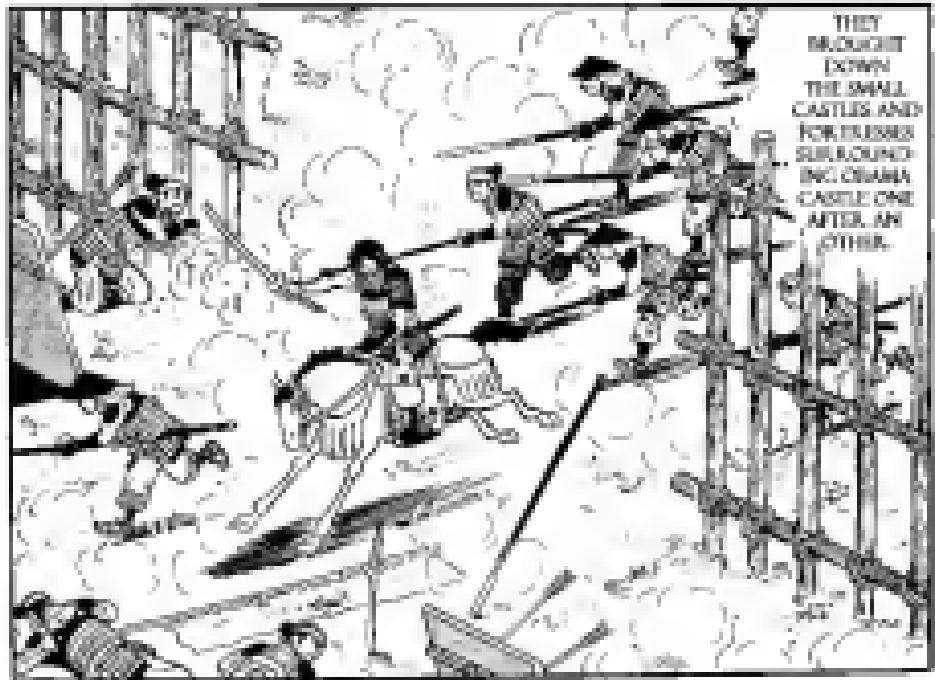


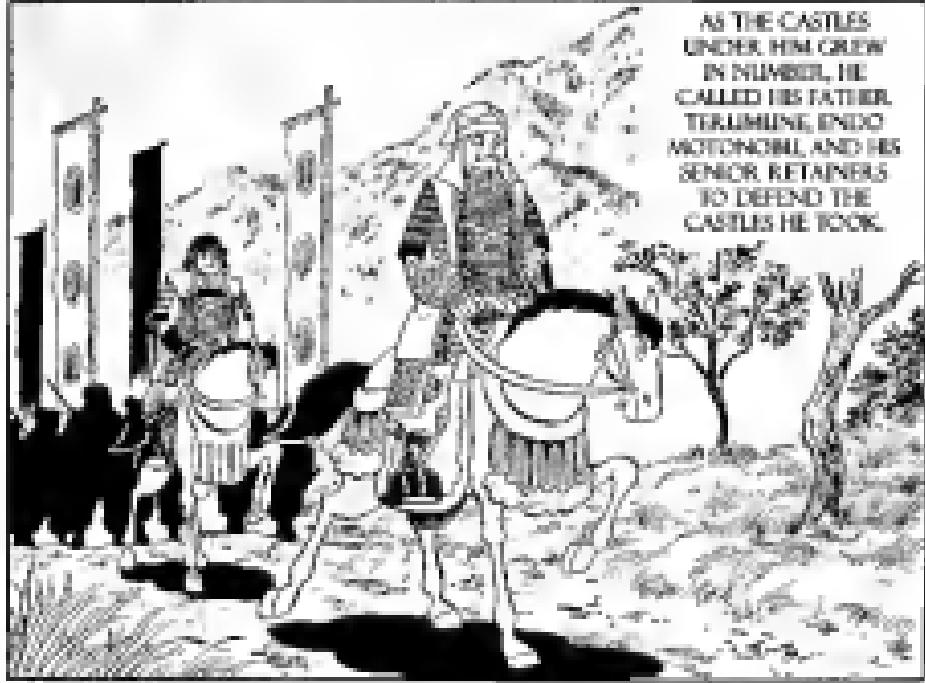




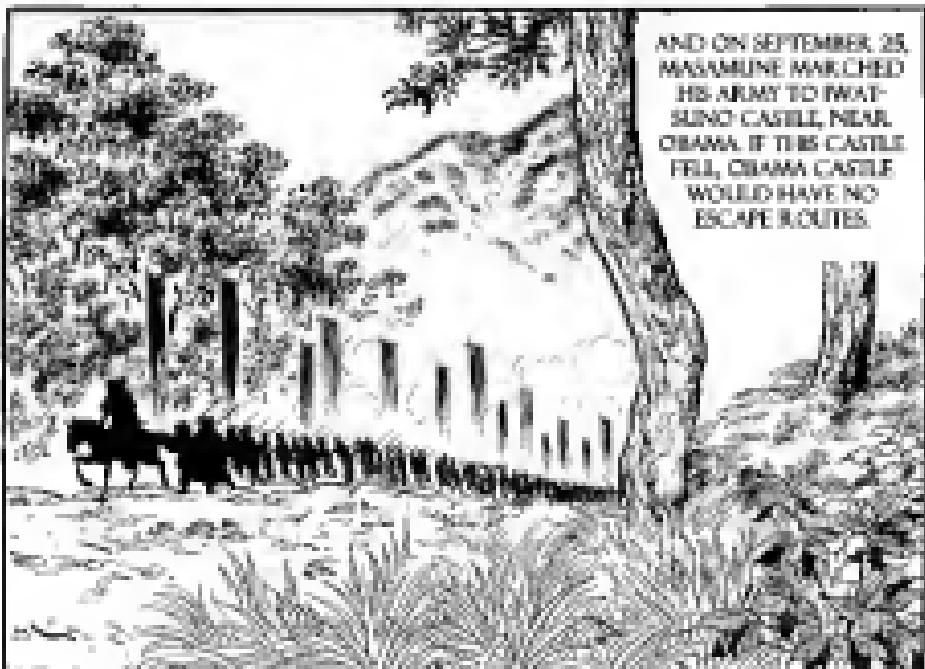


AND SO,
THE DATES
FIERCE
ATTACK
BEGAN

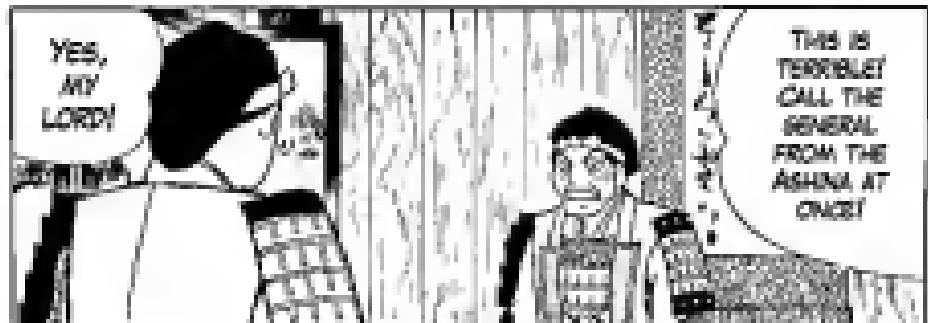
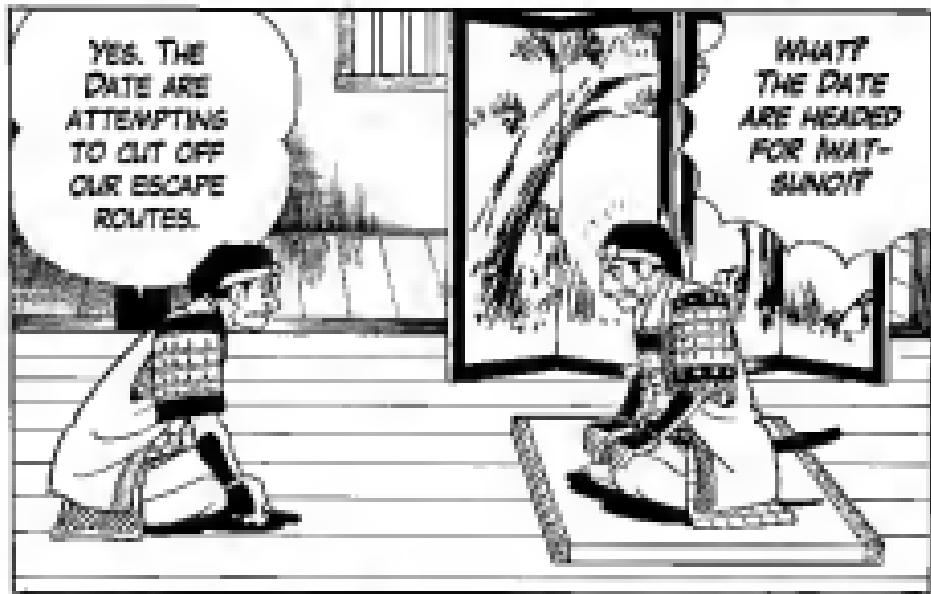




AS THE CASTLES
UNDER HIM GREW
IN NUMBER, HE
CALLED HIS FATHER,
TRIUMPHANT ENDO
MOTONOBU, AND HIS
SENIOR RETAINERS
TO DEFEND THE
CASTLES HE TOOK.



AND ON SEPTEMBER 25,
MASAMUNE MARCHED
HIS ARMY TO IWAT-
SUNO CASTLE, NEAR
OBAMA. IF THIS CASTLE
FELL, OBAMA CASTLE
WOULD HAVE NO
ESCAPE ROUTES.





OUR
SOL-
DIERST

SO I ASK THAT
THE ASHINA
SOLDIERS
ESCORT US TO
NIHOWATSU
CASTLE.

I SEE.
THAT IS
A GOOD
IDEA.

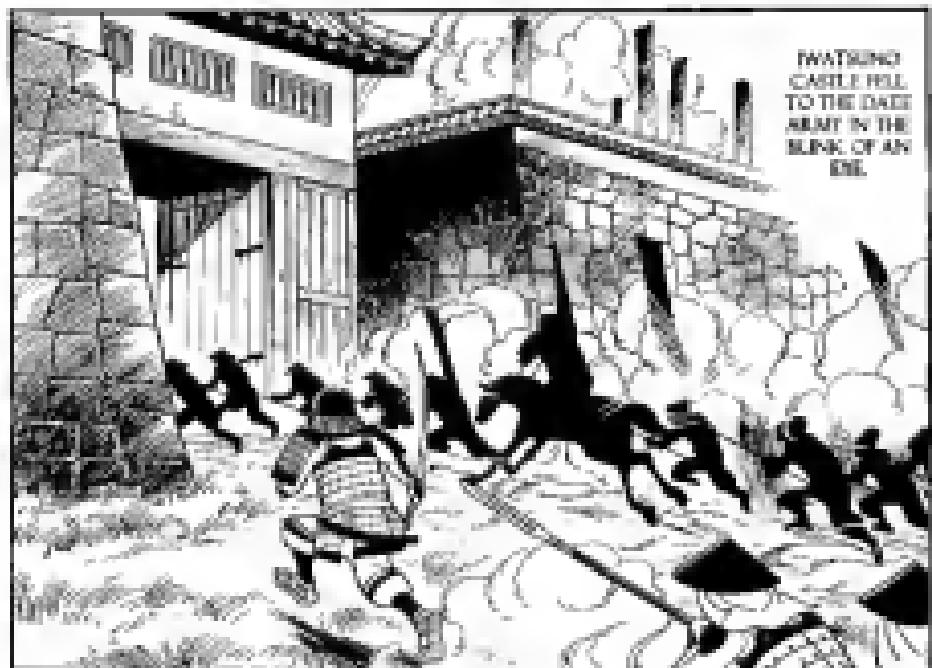
MY RETAINERS
WILL RECOGNIZE
THE ASHINA
ARMY, AND THEY
WILL THINK I
HAVE ESCAPED
TO ASHINA.

RIGHT!

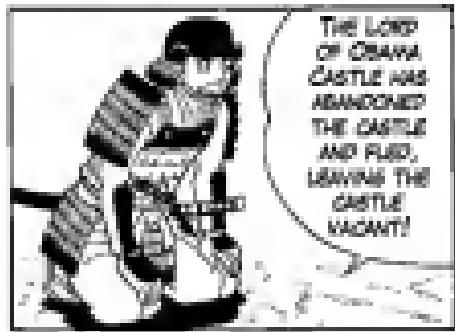
LET US
LEAVE THIS
CASTLE
IMMEDI-
ATELY!



WINTER WAS DRAWING NEAR. THE ASHINA SOLDIERS WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER WHEN THEY WOULD RETURN HOME. SO THEY GRATEFULLY COMPILED



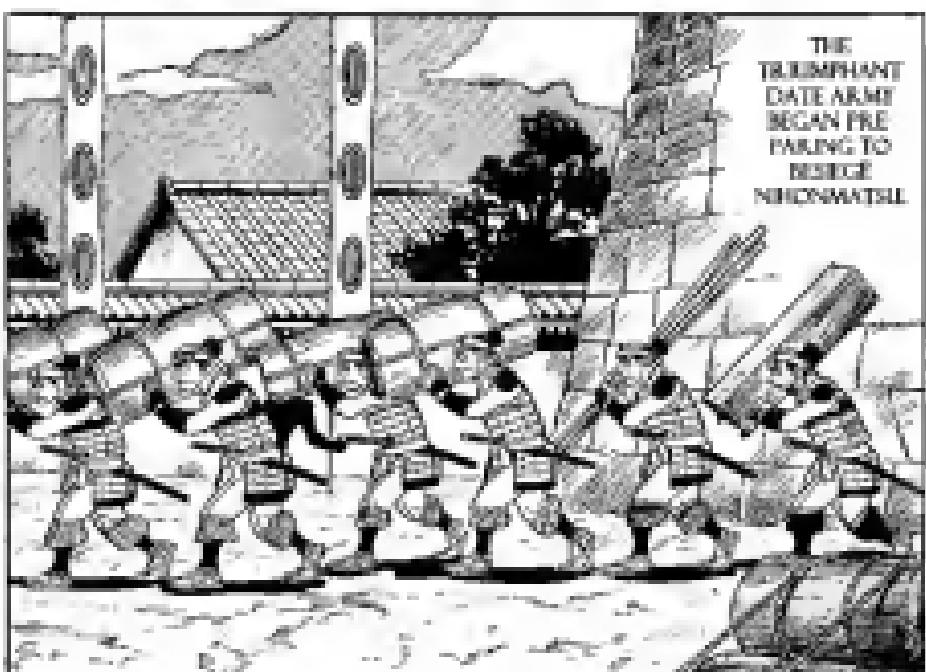
WATSON
CASTLE HILL
TO THE DACE
ARM IN THE
BLINK OF AN
EYE.







EVERONE, I HAD PLANNED TO ONLY ATTACK UP TO OBARA THIS YEAR, BUT SAMITSUJI HAS ESCAPED TO NINONAWATE! THIS, WE WILL CRUSH NINONAWATE AT ONCE!



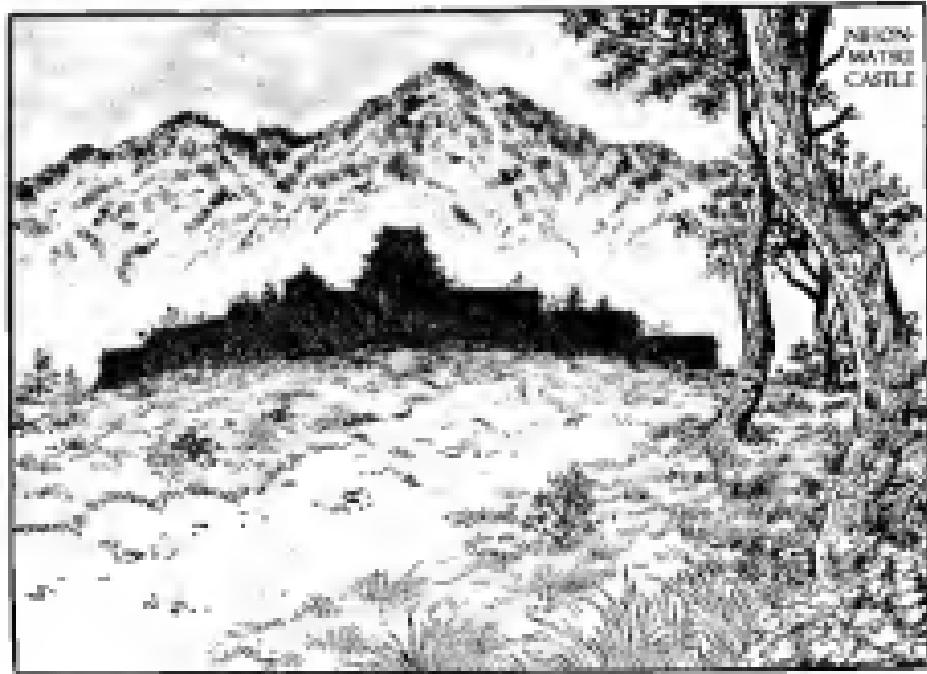
THE TRIUMPHANT DATE ARMY BEGAN PREPARING TO BESIEGE NINONAWATE.

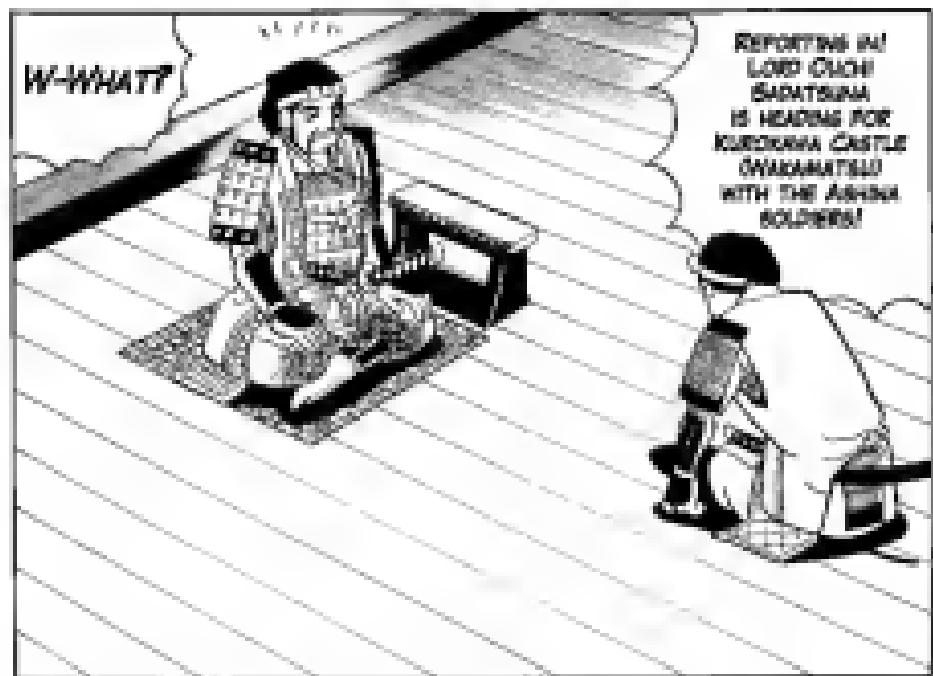
MASAMUNE DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 13 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 14: THE LONELY DRAGON





SO LORD SADATSUNA HAS DEBINED THIS PLACE TOO DANGEROUS!

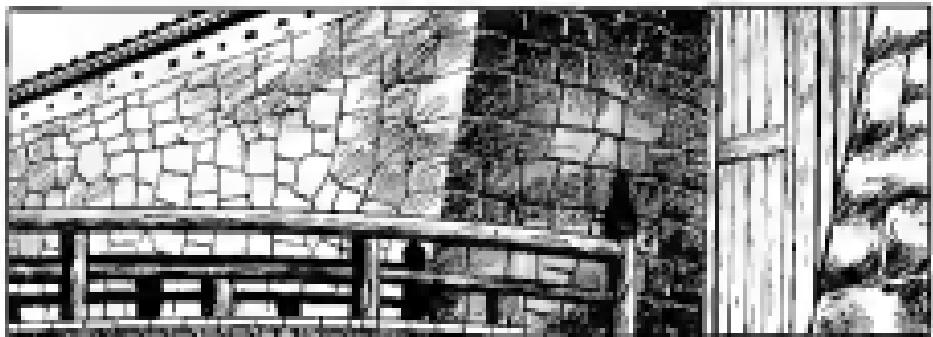
MY LORD, THIS IS TERRIBLE! WITHOUT LORD SADATSUNA AND WITHOUT THE ASHINA REINFORCEMENTS, WE HAVE NO WAY OF STANDING AGAINST THE DATE!

BUT WILL THE DATE ACCEPT OUR SURRENDER?

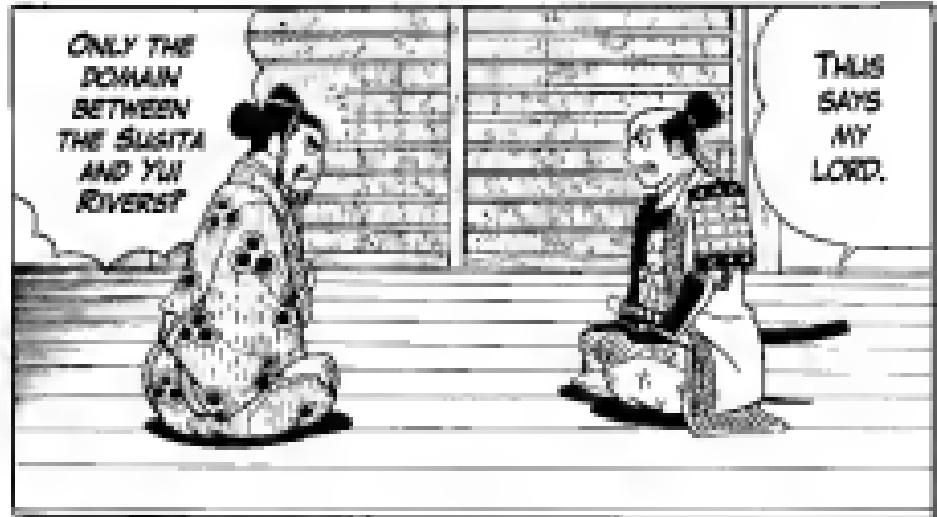
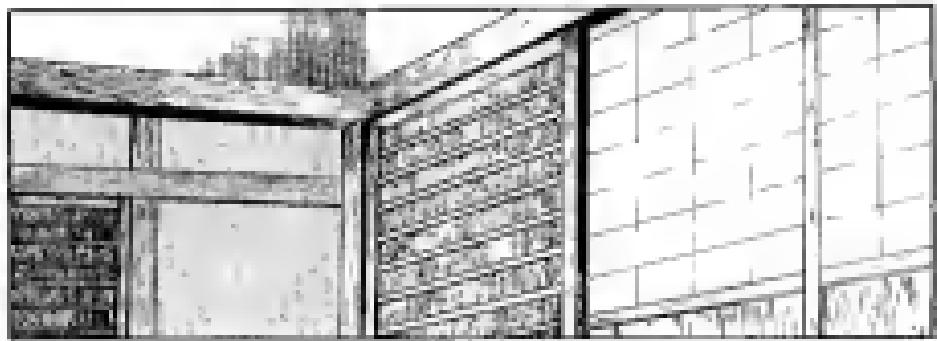
MY LORD, WE CAN DO NOTHING BUT SURRENDER!

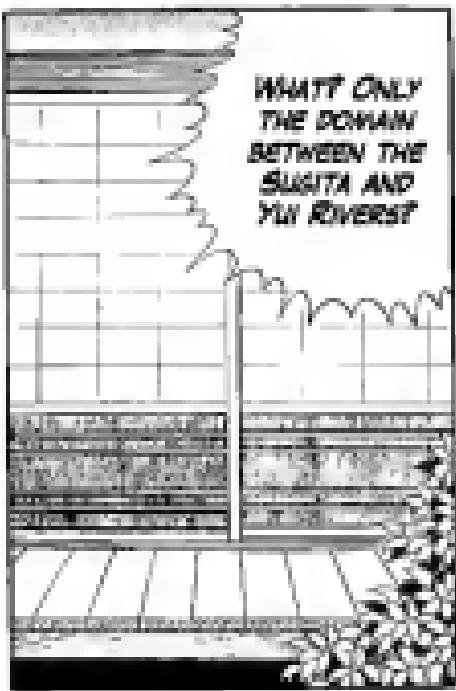
RIGHT.

WHETHER OR NOT THEY DO, WE SHOULD SURRENDER FIRST AND SEE HOW THEY RESPOND.











MY LORD,
WHY DO WE NOT
ASK HIS RETIRED
FATHER AND
ASK HIM TO
ACCOMMODATE
US?



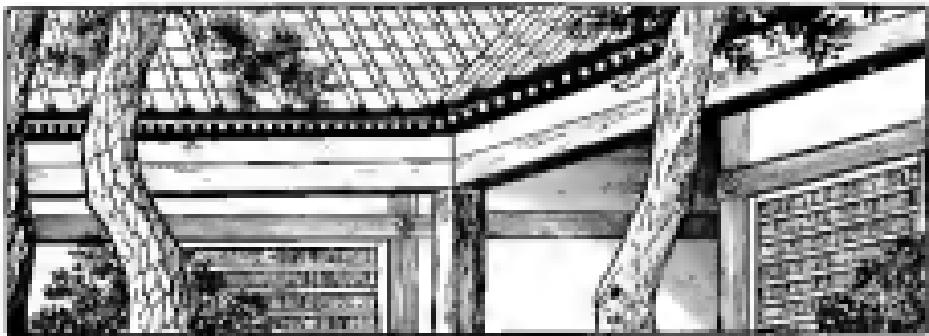
RIGHT.



THE
RETIRED LORD
IS TENDER-
HEARTED,
AND IF WE USE
THAT TO OUR
ADVANTAGE...

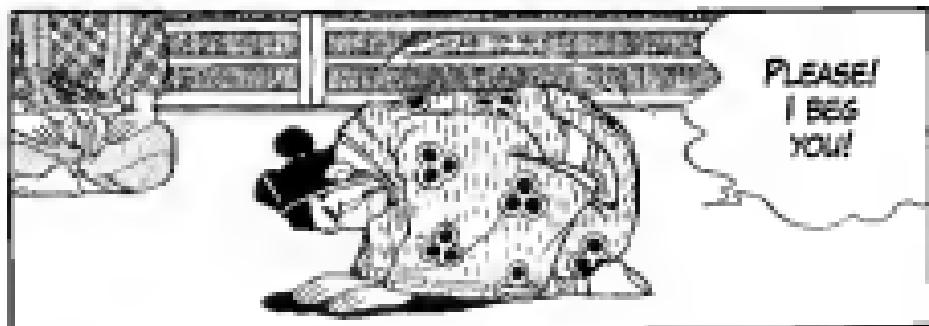


AND
THEN...
PSST
PSST...

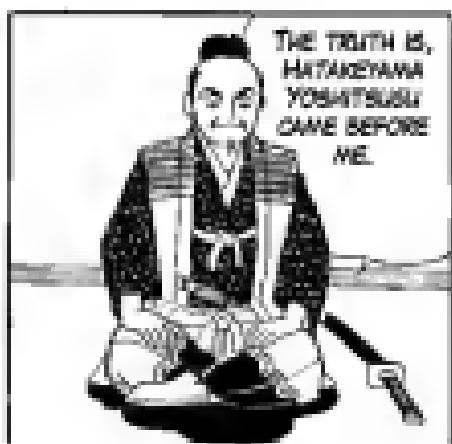


BUT ANASABURO
IS THE LORD OF
THE DATE CLAN
NOW. ASKING ME
WILL NOT DO
ANY GOOD...

I, YOSHITSUGU,
REGRET ALL MY PAST
OFFENSES. I SWEAR
TO OFFER MY MOST
FAITHFUL SERVICE, SO
I ASK YOU TO TAKE
MERCY ON ME AND
FORGIVE ME.







DO YOU NOT
PITY HATAKEKAWA
YOSHITSUBU, WHO
HAS SWALLOWED HIS
PRIDE AND COME
CRYING AND REPENTING
OF HIS PAST SINS?
WILL YOU PLEASE
FORGIVE HIM?

I HAVE NO INTENTION
OF OBJECTING TO
WHAT YOU ARE DOING,
BUT EVEN A HUNTER
WILL REFRAIN FROM
KILLING THE BIRD THAT
HAS FLOWN TO HIM
FOR SHELTER.

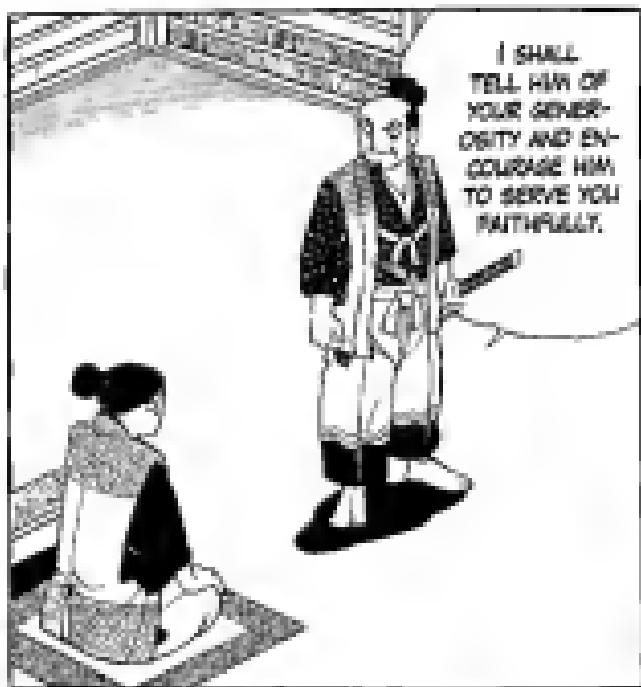
HE
STILL HASN'T
NOTICED THAT
HIS KINDNESS
IS THE REASON
PEOPLE ARE
DEPTING HIM!

DOES MY
FATHER NOT
HAVE ANY
WAY OF
DOWLING
PEOPLES?

WHAT DO
YOU THINK?
AM I BEING
TOO NAIVE?



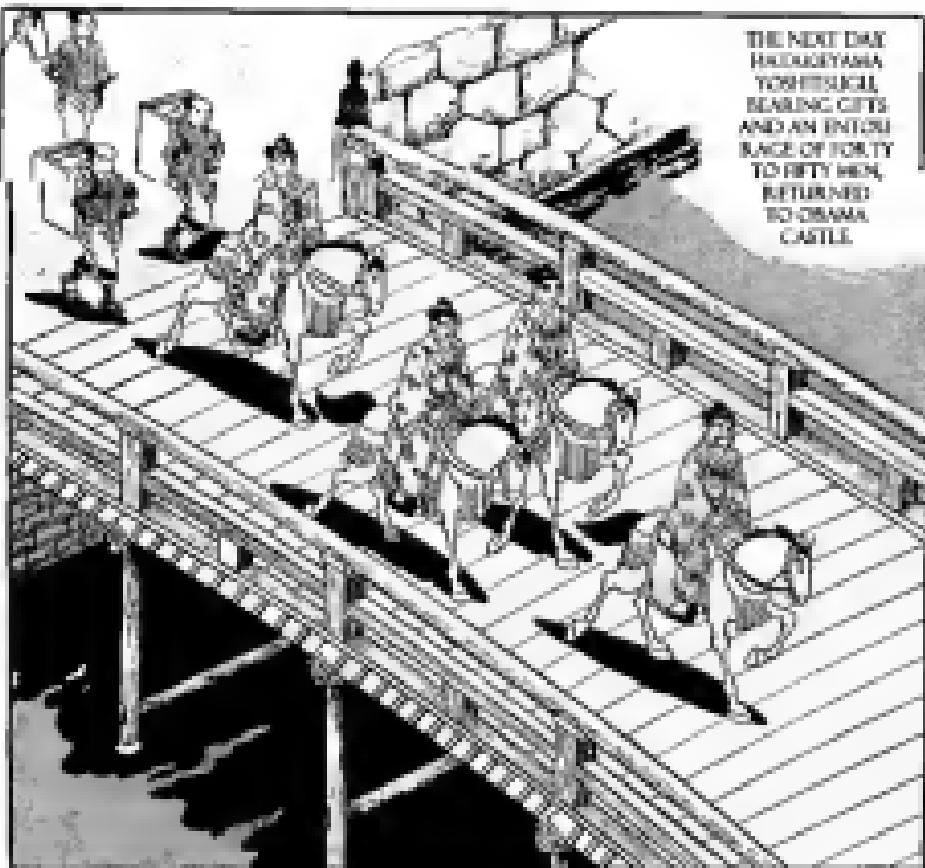




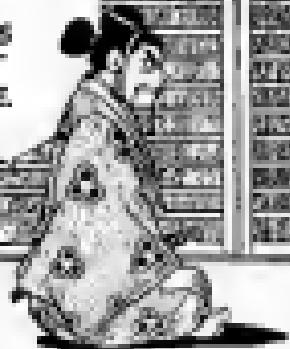
I SEE. IF WE ARE TO SPARE HIM, WE MUST BE SURE HE CAN SUPPORT ALL HIS RETAINERS.



THE NEXT DAY
HODOKUYAYA
TOSHIYASU,
BEARING GIFTS
AND AN ENTOU
RAGE OF FORTY
TO FIFTY MEN,
RETURNED
TO OBAMA
CASTLE.



SO
HE IS
NOT
HERE.



NOW, THIS IS
COMFORTS OF
YOU. I AM CERTAIN
MY LORD WILL BE
WELL PLEASED, BUT
UNFORTUNATELY,
MY LORD HAS
GONE OUT ON AN
INSPECTION.





OH, SO
HE BROUGHT
GIFTS
WITH HIM.
HE MUST
BE WELL
PLEASED.



MY
LORD, LORD
YOSHITSUGI
HAS COME
BEARING
GIFTS.



OH, SO
MASAMUNE
IS NOT
HERE?



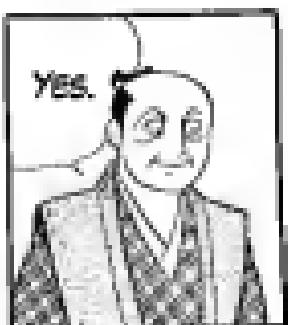
BUT OUR
LORD HAS
GONE ON
INSPECTION
TO SHIO-
MATSU.

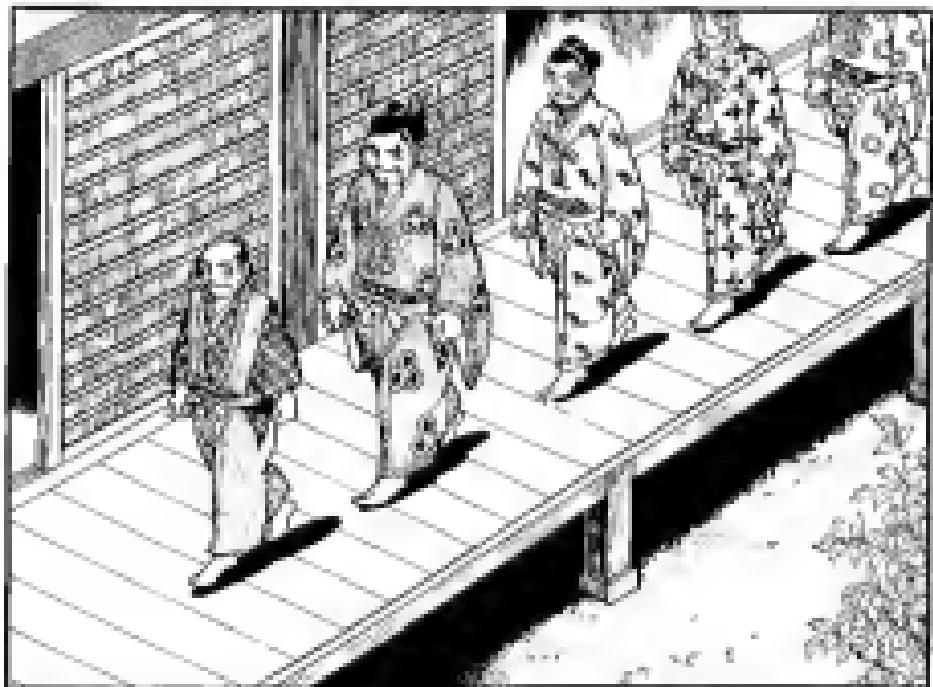
YES,
MY
LORD.

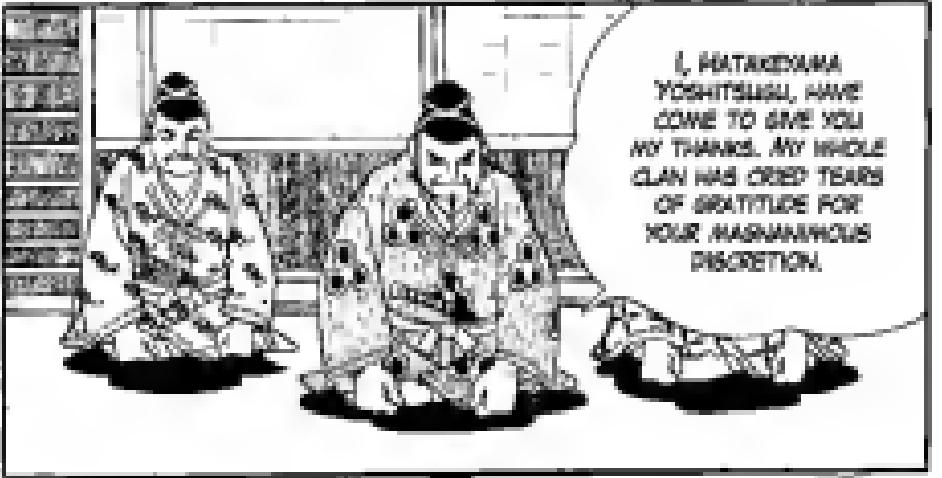


VERY WELL.
I MAY BE RETIRED,
BUT I SHALL
ACQUIT HIM
IF MASAMUNE
IS SONG SEND
HIM HERE.





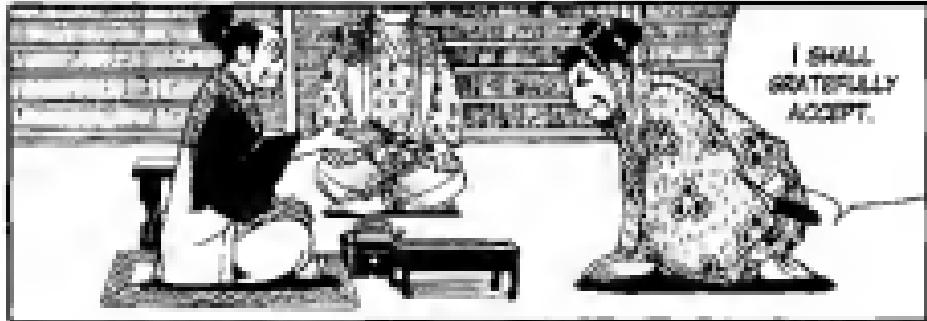


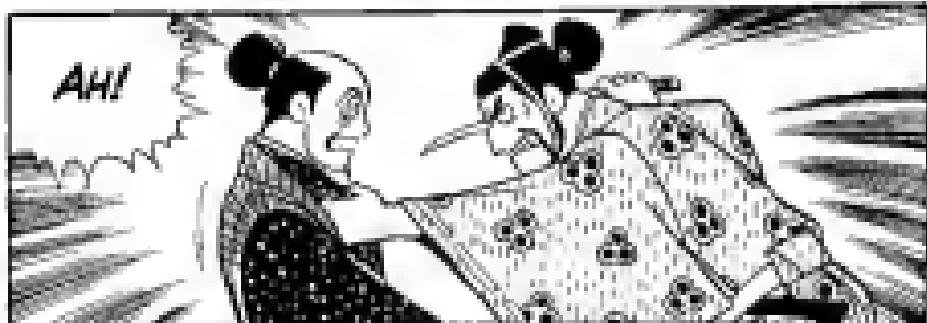
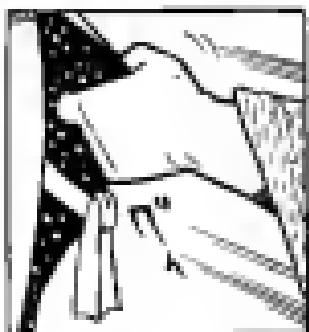
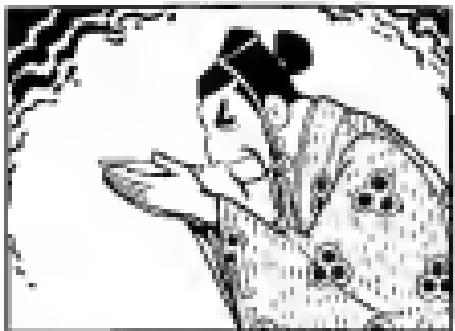


I, MATARAYAMA YOSHITSUGU, HAVE COME TO GIVE YOU MY THANKS. ANY WHOLE CLAN HAS CRIED TEARS OF GRATITUDE FOR YOUR MAGNIFICENT DISCRETION.



OH, THAT IS GOOD TO HEAR.





WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
IF THIS IS A
JOKE, IT'S
GOING TOO
FAR!

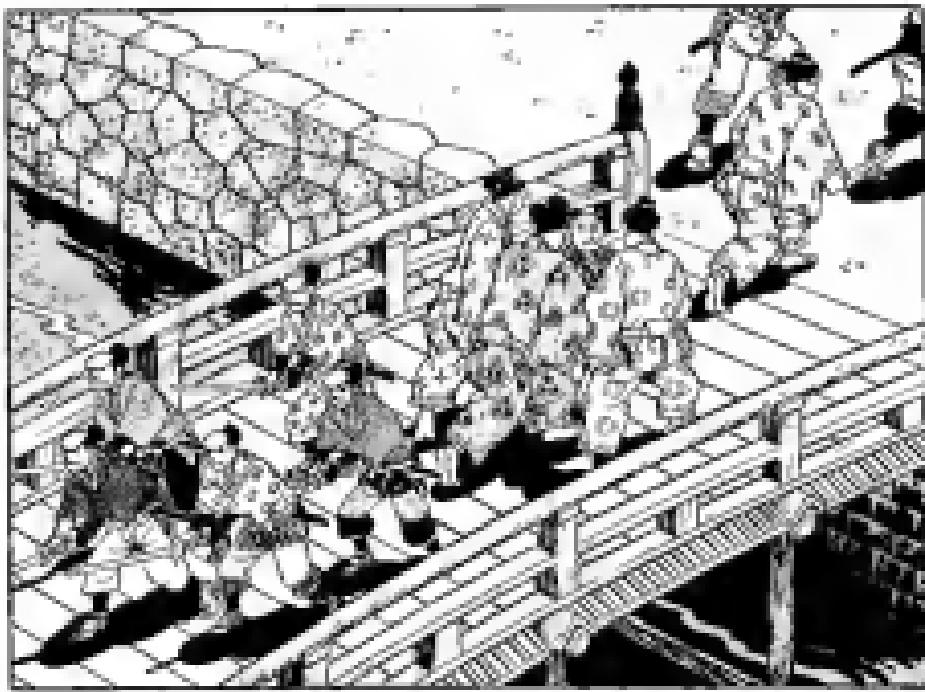
DO NOT
SHOUT!
OTHERWISE
YOUR LORD
DIES!

YOU INSULTED!
YOU RUINED
SOMETHING
THAT HAD ENDED
WELL...

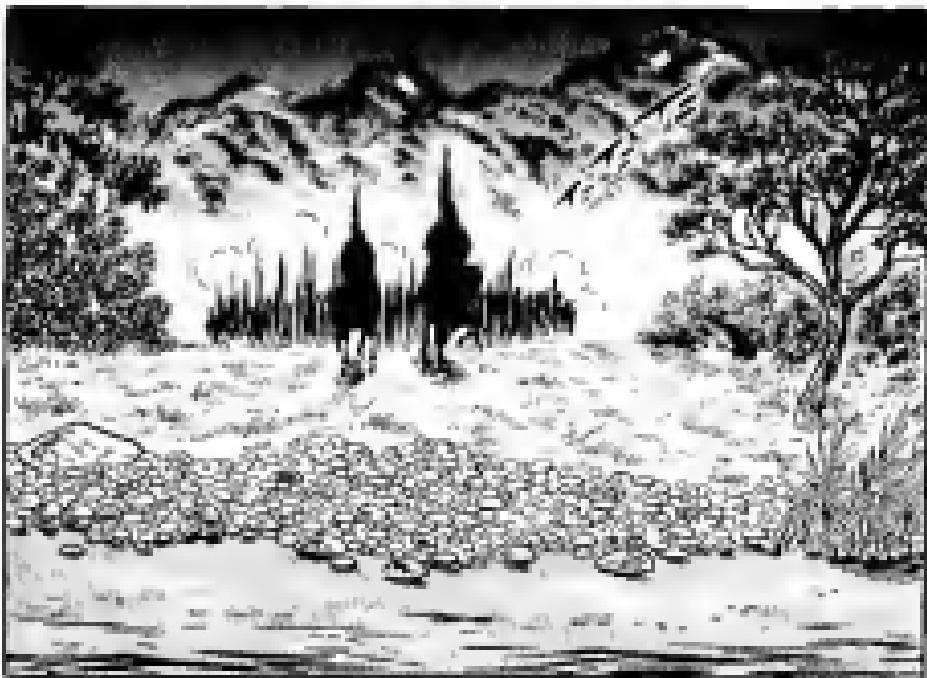
I WOULD NOT
DO THIS IN JEST!
I WAS HOPING
TO DO THIS WITH
MASAMUNE, BUT
WITH HIM GONE,
YOU WILL HAVE
TO DO!

IT MAY HAVE ENDED
WELL FOR YOU, BUT IT
WILL NOT FOR ME UNTIL
I HAVE DONE THIS! I WILL
TAKE YOU HOSTAGE AND
USE YOU TO BARGAIN
WITH MASAMUNE!









YES! I
AM RIGHT
HERE!

SHIGEZANE,
ARE YOU
THERE?

SILENCE,
FOOL!

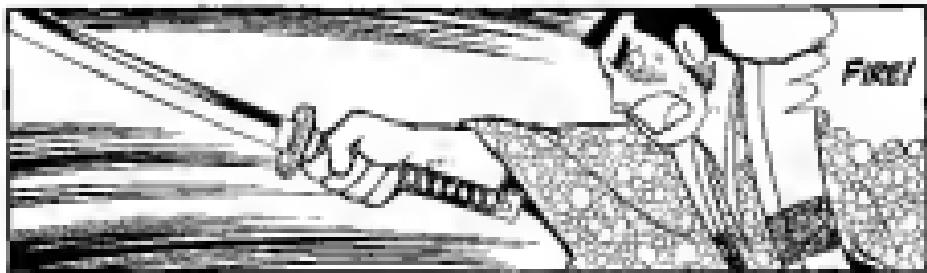
THE DATE
CLAN WILL BE
RUINED IF THEY
TAKE ME TO
NIKONOMATSU
SLAY ME AND
YOSHITSUNE
WITH ME!

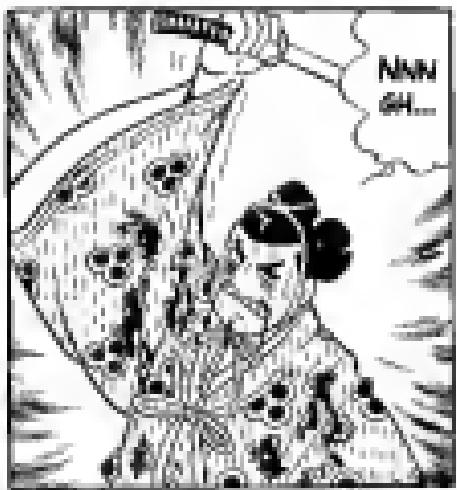
SHIGEZANE!
AT THIS
RATE,
MASAHARU'S
HANDS WILL
BIT THEM!

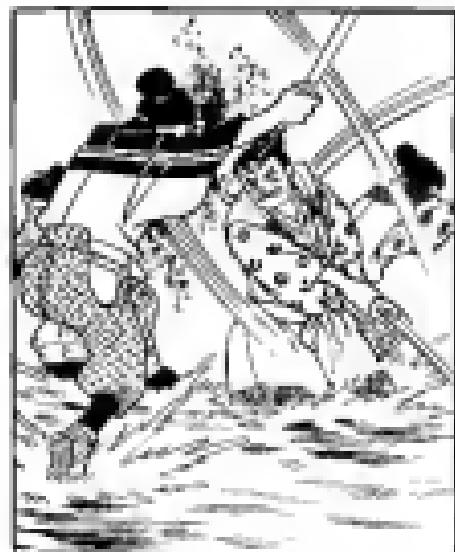
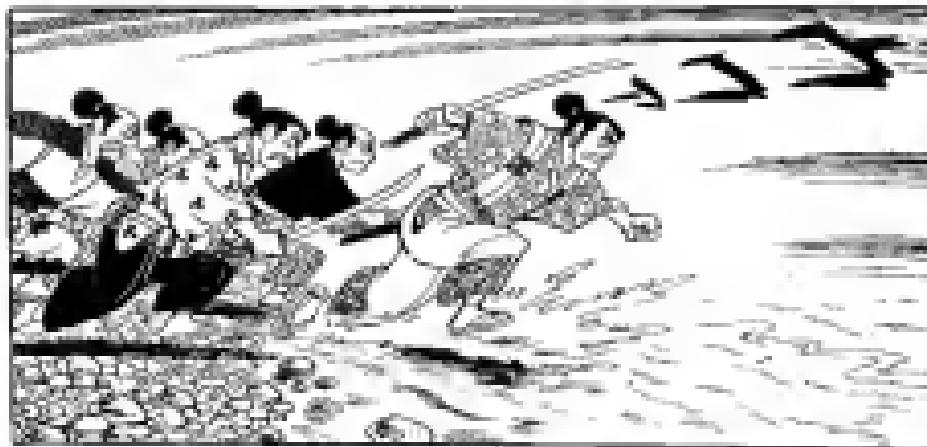
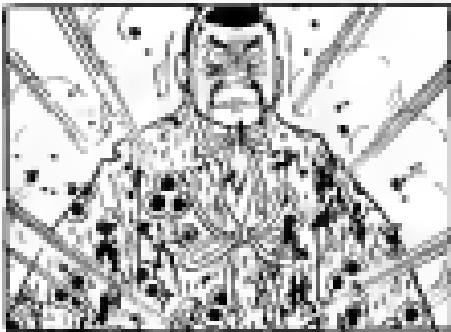
WALK!
WALK,
DAMN YOU!

I WON'T LET
MASAHARU'S
DREAMS BE
CRUSHED BY THE
LINES OF YOUNG

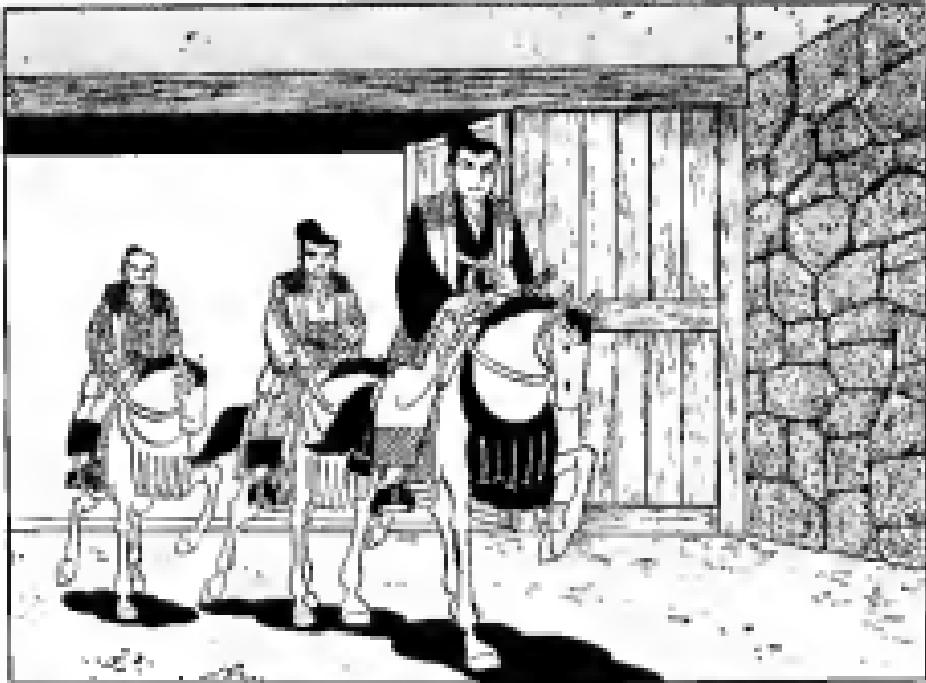




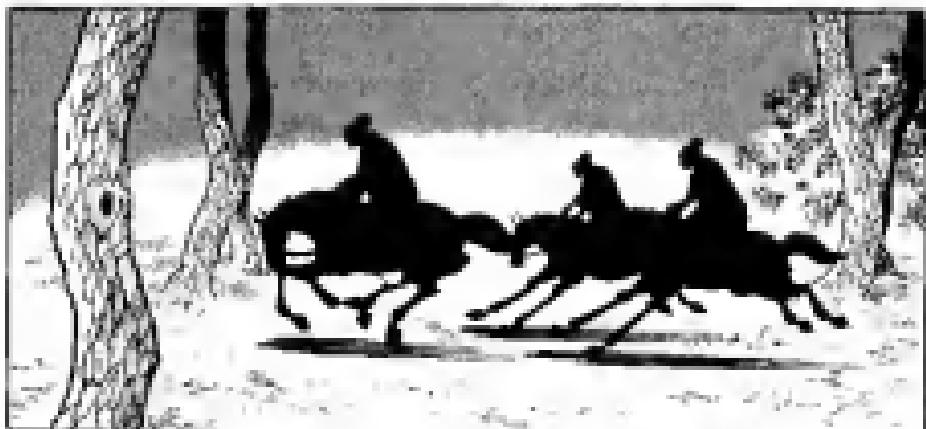


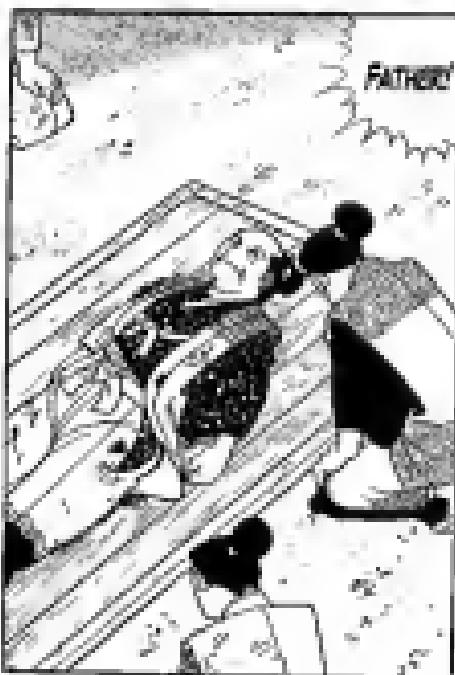


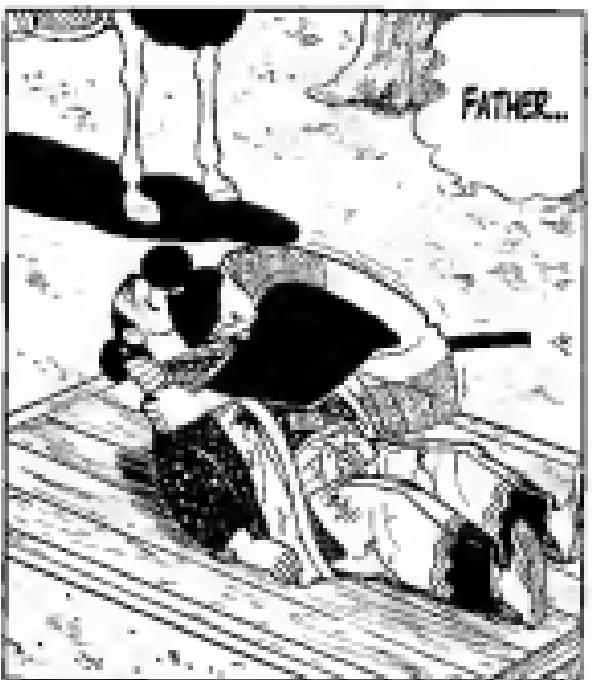












HAVE HIS HEAD
STRUNG UP IN THE
CASTLE TOWN!

SO HE
BETRAYED THE
DATE TO THE
VERY END.



BUT DO NOT
JUST DISPLAY IT!
GOURGE OUT HIS
EYES AND CUT
OFF HIS
EARS!



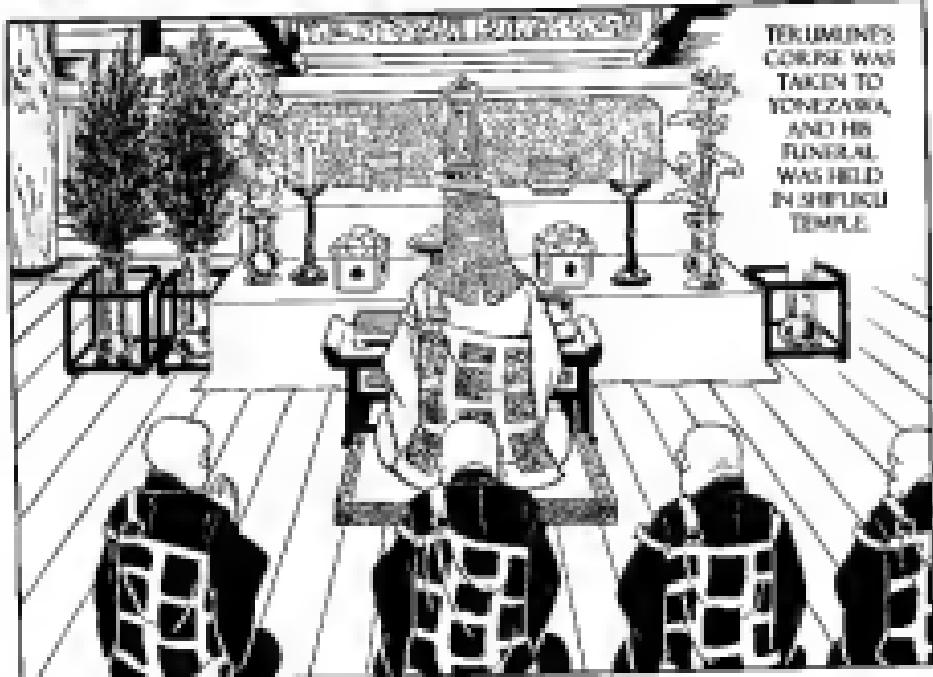
MY RAGE WILL
NOT SUBSIDE
UNTIL I HAVE
CRUSHED
NIHONMATSU!



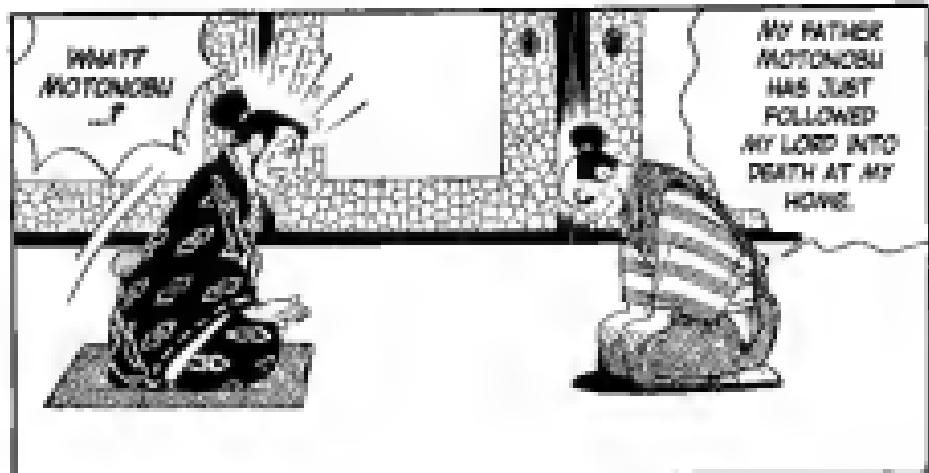
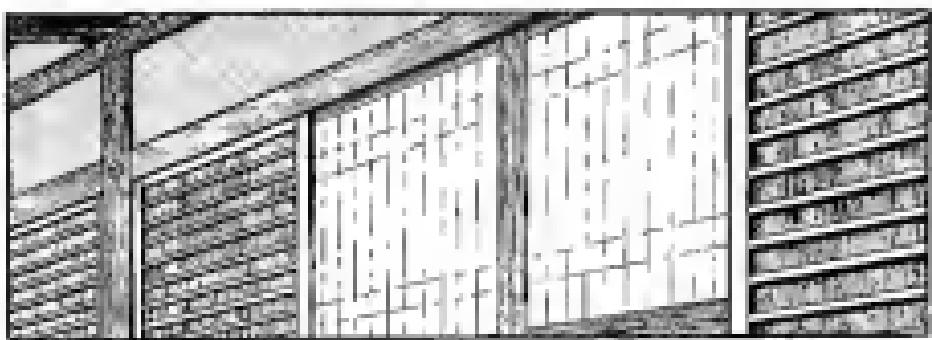
THIS BRUTAL ACT DID NOT END WELL. THE YOUNG MASAMUNE COULD NOT CALCULATE WHAT KIND OF LOSS THIS EYE FOR EYE, TOOTHFOR TOOTH ACT OF HATRED WOULD BRING HIM.



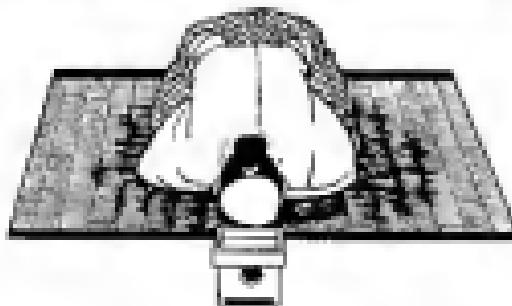
MUCH LONG,
TOMOHIRO'S
ATROCIOUS
HEAD
WAS ON
DISPLAY



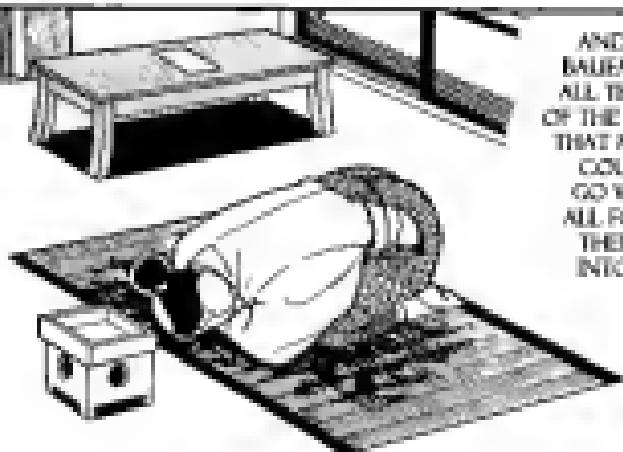
TEKUMUNE'S
CEREMONY WAS
TAKEN TO
YONEZAWA,
AND HIS
FUNERAL
WAS HELD
IN SHIZU
TEMPLE.



BUT
IT WAS
NOT JUST
MOTONOBU
SUDA,
HOKI...



AND UCHIBA,
BAIEMON, AND
ALL THE PILLARS
OF THE DATE CLAN
THAT MASAMUNE
COULD NOT
GO WITHOUT,
ALL FOLLOWED
THEIR LORD
INTO DEATH.



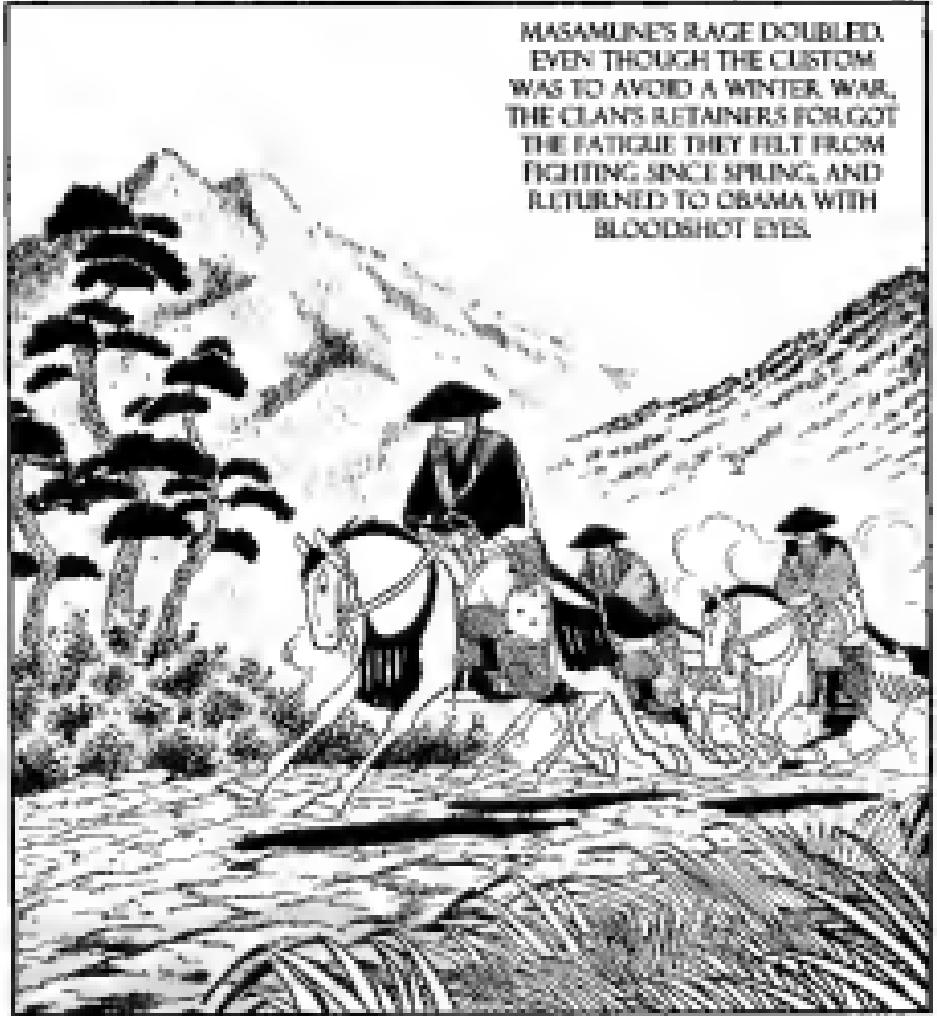
LEAVING ME
ALL ALONE...

THEY
ABANDONED
ME AND DIED
AT SUCH A
CRITICAL
HOUR...

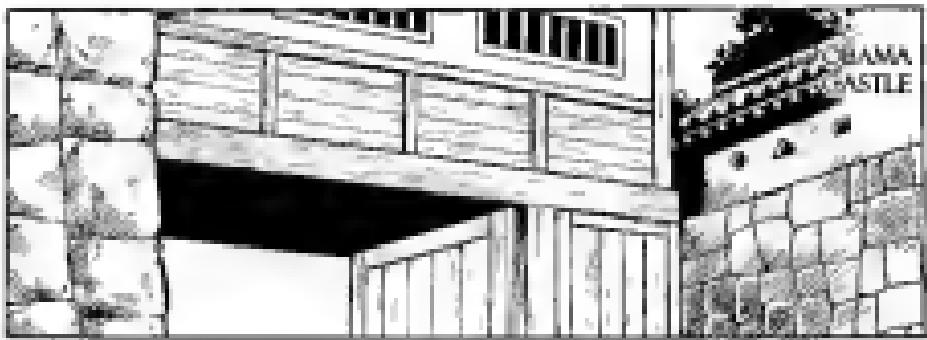




This is all
because of
Yoshitsugu's
treachery! This is
unforgivable!



MASAMUNE'S RAGE DOUBLED.
EVEN THOUGH THE CUSTOM
WAS TO AVOID A WINTER WAR,
THE CLAN'S RETAINERS FORGOT
THE FATIGUE THEY FELT FROM
FIGHTING SINCE SPRING, AND
RETURNED TO OBAMA WITH
BLOODSHOT EYES.



YES,
MY LORD.

KOGURO, SHIGEZANE,
I WANT YOU TO TAKE
THE VANGUARD FOR
THE ASSAULT ON
NIHONMATSU.



WHAT'S
THE MATTER,
KOGURO?
YOU DON'T
LOOK HAPPY.





WHAT?
WE ARE
HIS FOES?

I DO NOT
AGREE. IF YOU
LOOK AT IT FROM
KUNIOKANE'S
SIDE, HIS FATHER
AND RETAINERS
HAVE BEEN SLAIN...
YOU ARE HIS
HATED FOE,
MY LORD.

YOU BRUTALLY STRUNG UP
YOSHITSUGU'S HEAD IN THE
TOWN. I AM SURE THE ENEMY
IS JUST AS ENRAGED AS YOU.
WHY DO WE NOT CALM OUR-
SELVES IN ODAKA AND HOLD
SERVICES FOR THE DEAD,
WHILE WE WAIT FOR
SPRING...?

PLEASE, CALM
DOWN, MY LORD.
I KNOW YOU ARE
TRYING NOT TO BE
HAUGHTY, BUT THAT
IS HOW IT APPEARS
TO US.

DO NOT BE FOOLISH! COME
NEXT SPRING, KUNIOKANE WILL
HAVE BOUGHT REINFORCEMENTS
FROM ALL OVER! HE WILL HAVE
ENOUGH NUMBERS TO STRENGTHEN
HIS BRANCH CASTLES! HOW
DO WE HAVE TO GAIN FROM
WARTIME UNTIL SPRING?

THIS THE SIEGE OF
NIHONMATSU WILL NOT
END IN THE SIEGE OF
NIHONMATSU. AS A
SIGN OF THEIR HONOR
TO KUNIMARU, THEY
WILL JOIN FORCES WITH
HIM TO SLAY YOU!



AND
WHAT OF
IT? THEY
ARE FOES
I MADE TO
UNITE
OUJI!



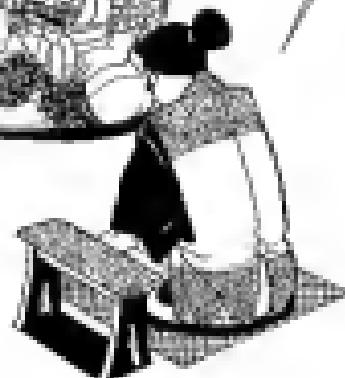
YOU HAVE MADE
ENEMIES OF THE
SATATE, ASHINA,
SOMA, SHIRAKAWA,
ISHIBA, MOTO, AND
HATAKEYAMA. ALL
SEVEN CLANS ALONG
THE HIGHWAY TO THE
SOUTH. YOUR ONLY
ALLY IS THE TANAKA.

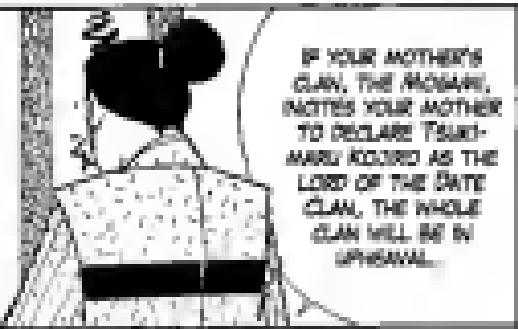


IT IS NOT
AN ALLIANCE
I FEAR. I FEAR
THAT YOU WILL
BE NAILED
DOWN IN THIS
LAND.



COULD
I UNITE OUJI
IF I WAS
AFRAID OF AN
ALLIANCE?





MASAMUNE マサムネ DATE

DATE MASAMUNE
CHAPTER 14 BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND
HAPPYSCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFREADING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
CLEANED BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO1412

CHAPTER 15: HITOTORI BRIDGE





THE DATE
ARMY SET
FOORTH ON
OCTOBER
28.

BUT THE DATE ARMY
SUFFERED A FERCE
BLIZZARD FOR THREE
DAYS OCTOBER 28-30.
THE LUSITAL CALENDAR
WAS VERY EASY FOR
SNOW, EVEN FOR
THE NORTHERN
REGIONS.



THE PEOPLE OF
NIKONOMATSU SAID
THIS SNOW WAS A
SIGN THAT THE GODS
HAD SPECIFIED NIKI-
MONMARU WHO,
AT THE AGE OF
TWELVE, STOOD TO
SLAY HIS FATHER'S
KILLER.



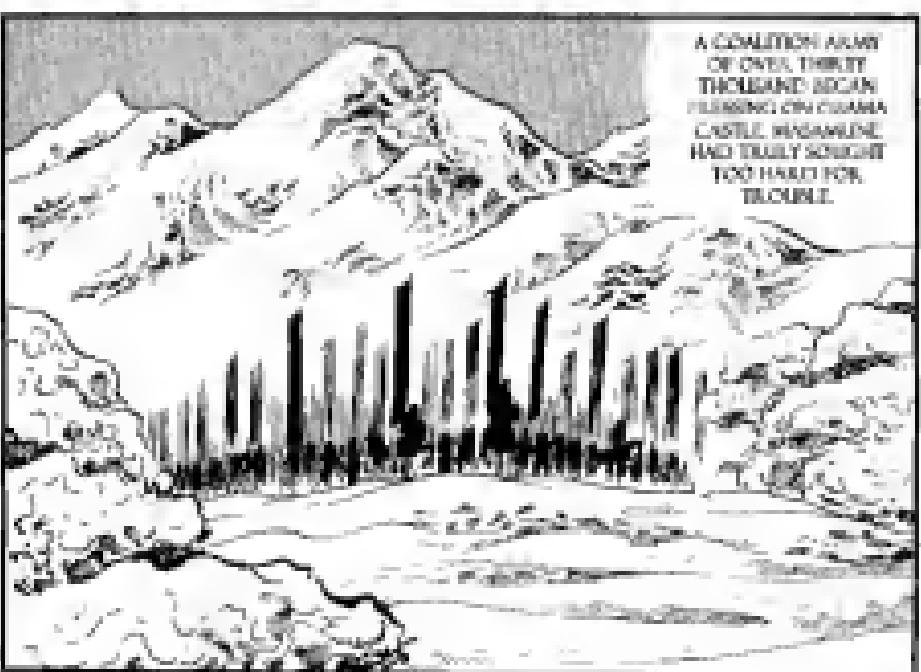
WHATEVER,
THE CASE, THE DATE
ARMY HAD NO CHOICE
BUT TO RETURN TO
OKAMURA AND THAT IS
WHEN KATAKURA
KOTONO KAGETSUNA'S
PREDICTION CAME
TRUE.



IN THE
MOUNTAINS,
THE SEVEN
CLANS OF
THE HIGHWAY,
SAIDING "I
WE MUST
SAVE KUNNO-
MARU!"



AND WE
MUST NOT
LET KUNNO-
MARU DIE;
SEND THREE
REINFORCE-
MENTS.



A COALITION ARMY
OF OVER THIRTY
THOUSAND MEN
PLANNING ON CRASH
CASTLE WAGAMINE
HAD TRAILLY SICKENED
TOO HARSH FOR
TROUBLE.

THE WAR
BEGAN ON
NOVEMBER 10,
AT TAKAKURA
CASTLE.



ONE OF THE GUARDIALS OF THE CASTLE,
DOKIDOKI NO KANAI,
SAID, "WE LET
SUCH A LARGE ARMY
PASS THE LORD'S
ENCAMPMENT. WE
MUST CALL TO ARMS."





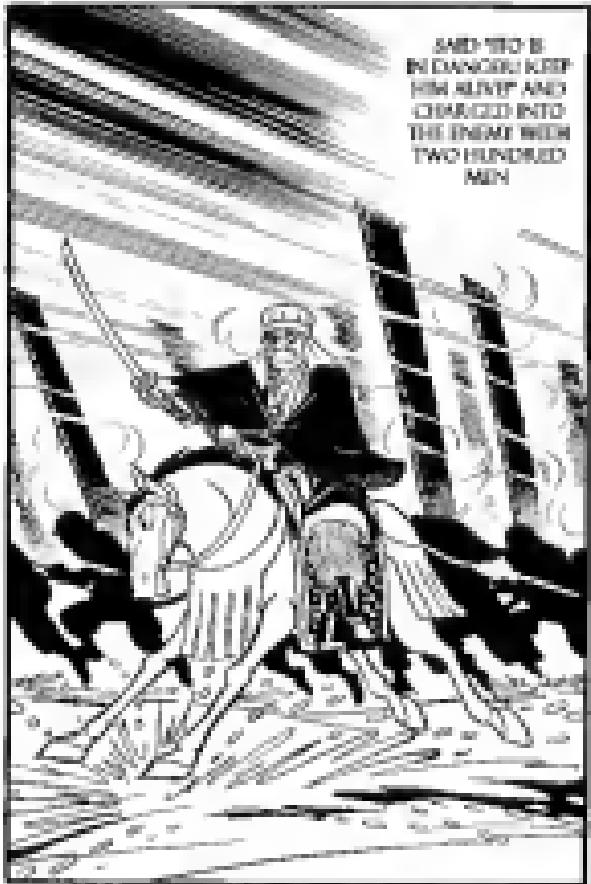
THIS TRIO—
ALL TWO HUNDRED
OF THEM,
PULLED
KNUCKLES AT
ONCE,



AND
CHARGED
FORWARD
WHILE THEIR
ENEMY WAS
BRAWLING.



THEY MAY HAVE BEEN
SUCCESSFUL AGAINST
A HORDE OF THREE OR
FIVE HUNDRED, BUT THE
ENEMY WAS EXORDING OF
TIMES MORE POWERFUL
HAIL THAT HAD BEEN
ELIMINATED!



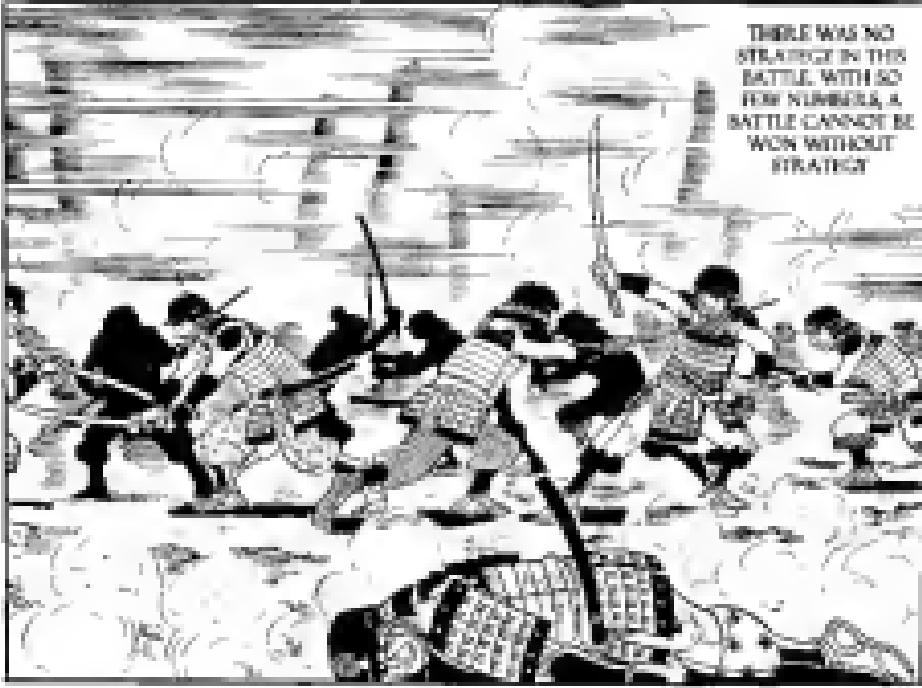
SHEP TWO-SI
IN DANGER. KEEP
HIM ALIVE! AND
CHARGED INTO
THE ENEMY WITH
TWO HUNDRED
MEN



HOWEVER,
PLIEST
KOBRA
SAIGAWA,
WHO WAS
WATCHING
FROM THE
SIDE OF
THE MAIN
CAMP,



SEEING THIS,
MASAMUNE
CHARGED INTO
THE ENEMY
LINES SAYING
TOO NOT
LET THEM
KILL THE
PLIEST



THERE WAS NO STRATEGY IN THIS BATTLE. WITH SO FEW NUMBERS, A BATTLE CANNOT BE WON WITHOUT STRATEGY.

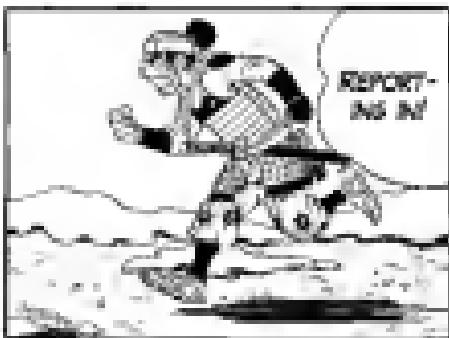


BEFORE LONG, THE
BATTLEFIELD MOVED TO
HOTOTORI BRIDGE.

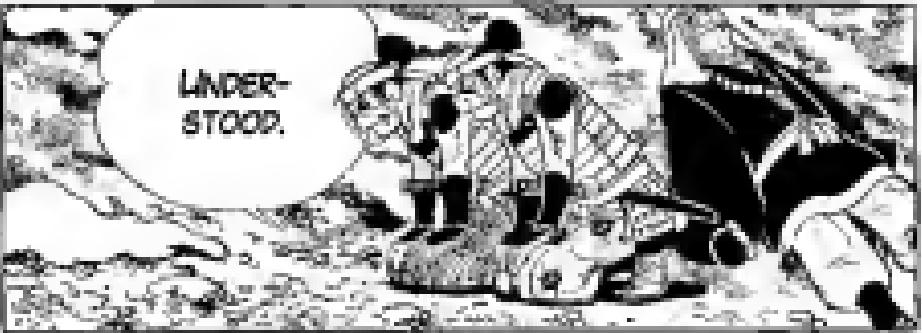


MY
LORD...
WHERE
IS MY
LORD?









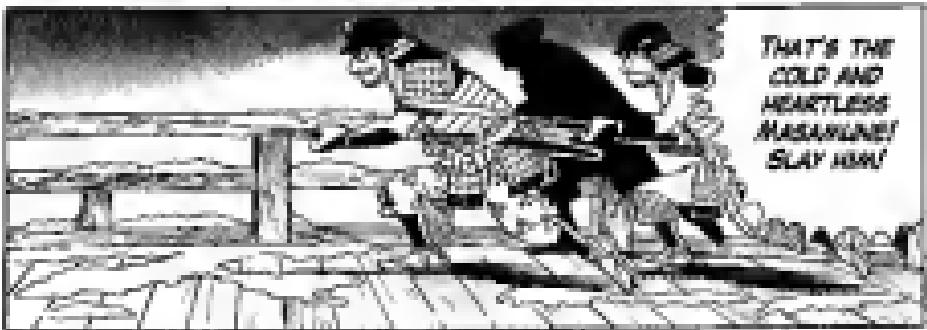
UNDER-
STOOD.



ALRIGHT,
WE WILL MEET
AGAIN IF WE
SURVIVE!

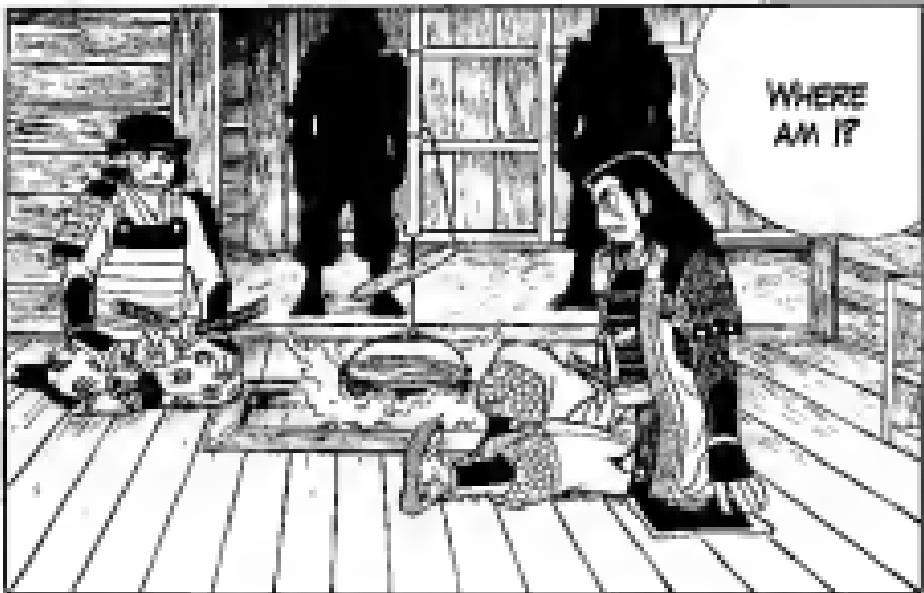
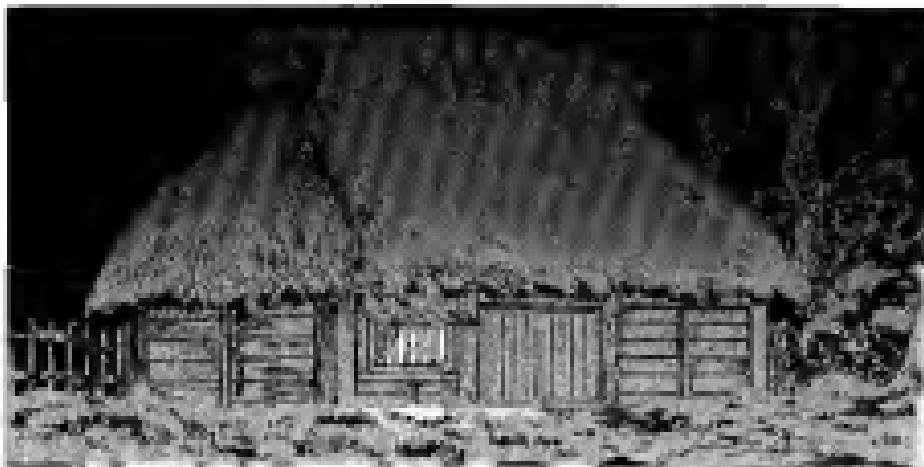












MY
CAMP

THIS
IS YOUR
CAMP.

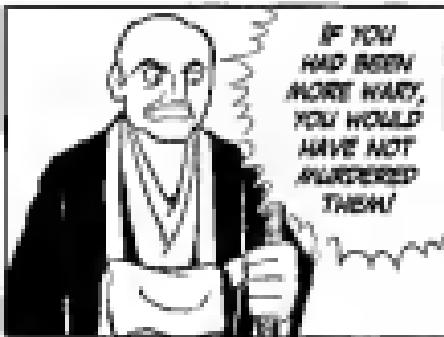
OH, IF
IT ISN'T
THE HIGH
PRIEST!

WHEREVER
YOU ARE IS
YOUR CAMP...
RIGHT NOW,
THIS FARM-
HOUSE IS YOUR
CAMP.

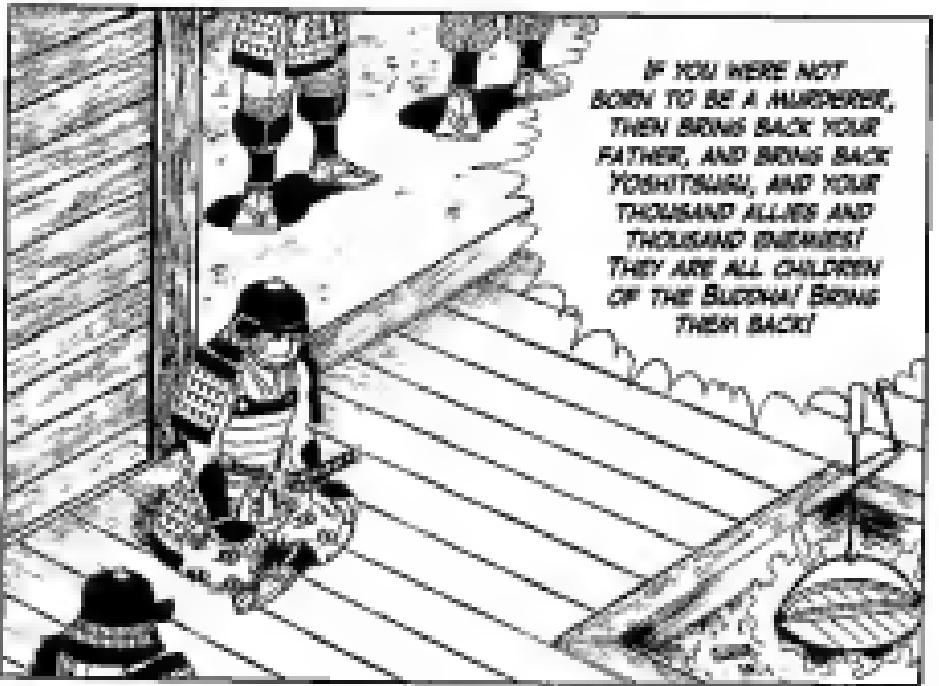
YOU
FOOL!
YOU ANGU-
LISHED!

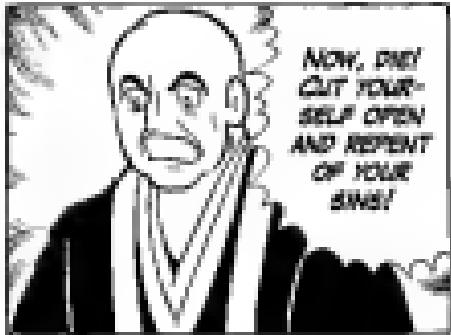
YES! YOU HAVE
MURDERED TWO
THOUSAND OF YOUR
ALLIES BECAUSE OF
YOUR OWN HATRED
FOR THOSE THAT
KILLED YOUR
FATHER!

YOU
DARE CALL
ME A MUR-
DERER?









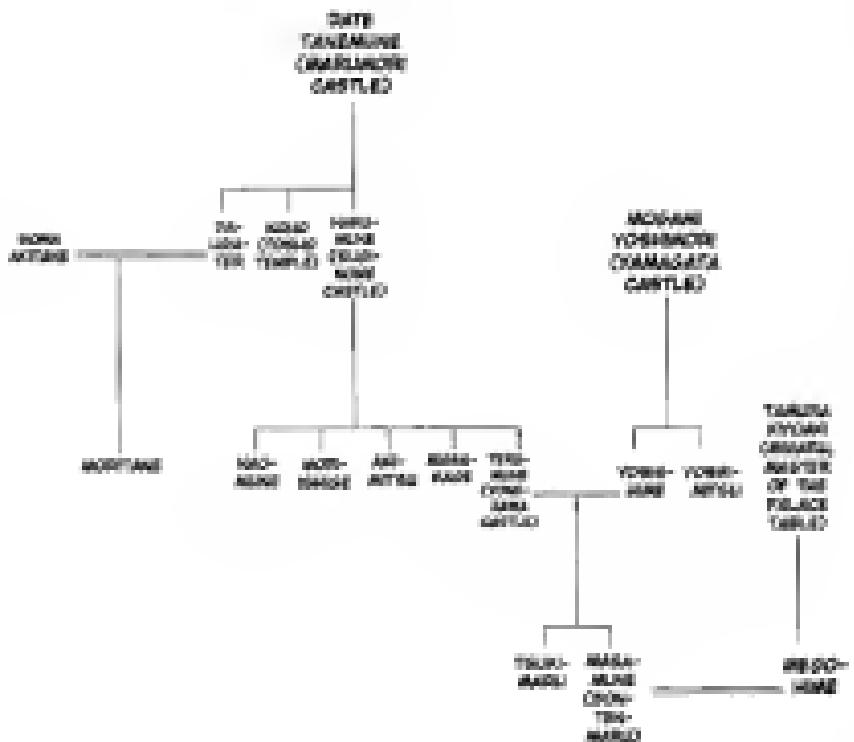
NOW DIE, HUNTER! IF A MAN LIKE YOU WERE TO UNITE OMA, IT WOULD BE DISASTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF OMA! DIES! DIES! TAKE RESPONSIBILITY! I SHALL POSTPON YOUR LAST RITES!



I SEE... SO I WAS THE CAUSE OF ALL OF THIS...

DARKNESS
SWALLOWED
THE BATTLEFIELD,
BUT THE SCREAMS
AND BELLOWS
CONTINUED.



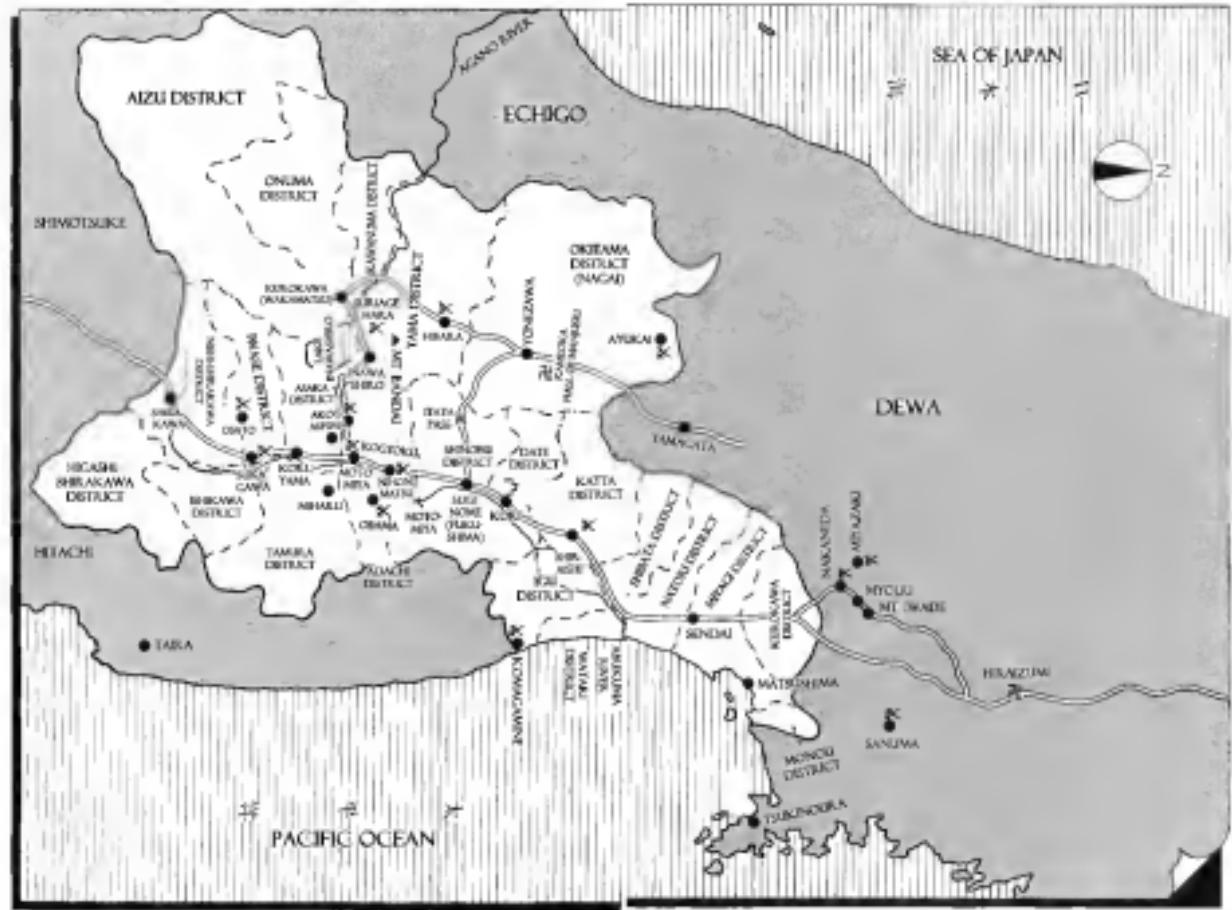


SHIBAMOTO,
KAKANO SHIBAMOTO
CHIEF SHIBAMOTO
→ HATANAKA,
ENDO KAZUAKI
CLUTER CHIEF SHIBAMOTO
→ MURAKAMI,
HARADA MURAKAMI,
OKANO SHIBAMOTO,
SUWA KOU,
UCHIDA DAISAKU,
KATORIKA KYUICHI,
HARADA SHOESAKU,
ITO HEIJI-NO-KAMI,
PRIEST Ochiai SATSUMA

BONITAVERDE TEACHERS
HIGH PERCENT ASIAN
CREWING IN SHIFUJI TRAPPIED
ATLANTA EQUITY
COOPERATION STRIKES
GRAND CIRCLE SAGA
(REPLACEMENT)

BONITA MARGARET PAGE B.
DATE TOSSED KASHTAN
GROWTH STAGE 5 COMING
KATULUMA KOGLEO KASHTAN
CANNING 100% HONEY-SWEETENED

MANITOBARIEN WEST MURSH.
MURSH
CITY OF MANITOBA SHAWINIGAN



MAP
OF DATE
MASAMUNE'S
DOMAIN.
BEGINNING
OF TENSHO
YEAR 18
(1590)



LOCATIONS
OF PRINCIPAL
CHARACTERS
IN THIS
VOLUME



伊達政宗

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MASAMUNE 連続政治小説 DATE

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